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Vol VI No 142

23 July 1984

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FURTHER ON LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT MEETING

PA202306 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1928 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] San Jose, 20 Jul (EFE) -- The president of Costa Rica, Luis Alberto Monge, today opened the special assembly of the Latin American Parliament.

The Parliament was convoked to analyze globally the problem of the continent's external debt, which totals $350 billion.

Monge affirmed that the sacrifices demanded of the Latin American economies are the result of internal money problems provoked by a lack of adequate policies, a lack of incentives for saving, and errors in monetary and exchange policies.

The deterioration of the terms of exchange, the world economic recession, increased interest rates in the developed nations, and increased oil prices are some of the causes of our crisis. the chief of state declared.

The president of the Costa Rican legislative Assembly, Bernal Jimenez [as received] said that the Latin American economy "has been the victim of perverse terms of exchange with regard to foreign commerce."

"Under present conditions," servicing the external debt would leave the region without foreign currency to continue its development, as it "would actually absorb two thirds of the income from exports," Jimenez said.

Consensus on Foreign Debt

PA212245 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 0100 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] At the end of the plenary session of the Latin American Parliament's special meeting, a consensus was reached to jointly face the payment of the foreign debt to creditor countries and private world organizations. In addition, it has been reported that Brazil proposed the nonpayment of the foreign debt and, based on this stance, to begin negotiations leading to the refinancing of the debt.

The Dominican Republic representative said that it is time to export to new markets, specifically those of socialist countries.

Costa Rica is not reluctant to pay its obligations, but will propose that longer grace periods be given and that interest rates be fixed for as long as payments are made, deputy Javier Bolanos said.

It was also stated that the OAS has appointed a committee to find a solution to the problem in accordance with the needs of each of the Latin American countries.

Meeting of Presidents Urged

PA220252 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0213 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The Latin American Parliament today called for a meeting of Latin American heads of state so that they "will adopt specific decisions on the subcontinent's foreign debt problem."

At the end of their special 3-day meeting in San Jose, the parliamentarians of 16 Latin American countries reached the conclusion that "the joint $360 billion foreign debt is the most important problem that our countries have experienced since the beginning of their independent life."

According to the final communique, the meeting of Latin American heads of state will be opportunely called and the need for "political integration as a means for liberation" will be raised at the meeting.

Nicaraguan Request on Elections

PA220305 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0226 GMT Jul 84

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The Nicaraguan State Council today presented a formal invitation to the Latin American Parliament to send observers to the 4 November elections.

In the invitation, Nicaragua proposed that representatives from all of the democratic countries that make up the parliament be sent to "verify the honesty of the electoral process."

The board of directors of this supranational institution received the invitation "with utmost interest" and promised "to immediately respond to the offer."

The Latin American Parliament, which is comprised of deputies from 16 countries of the subcontinent, ended a meeting in San Jose today to discuss Latin America's foreign debt problem.

BRAZIL, ARGENTINA, URUGUAY OPPOSE PROTECTIONISM

Antiprotectionism Accord

PY201427 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2151 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 19 Jul (EFE) -- Brazil, Argentina, and Uruguay have signed an agreement to struggle together against protectionist measures established by industrialized countries, particularly against measures in the agricultural sector.

The protectionism of developed countries which grant strong subsidies to their products, causes a difference in prices in the international market. This harms poor nations since their products are then always more expensive.

The Argentine representative, Nestor Scantonelli, noted that rich countries will have to accept the fact that the payment of the foreign debt is very much tied to the protectionist measures they implement and it is along these lines that this agreement must be understood.

This agreement reasserts the economic cooperation agreement that these three countries signed 2 months ago for the exchange of agricultural and industrial products with the aim of establishing a sort of common market in Latin America.

Also during the meeting, which was attended by Brazilian Agriculture Minister Carlos Mattos, Brazil and Uruguay signed an agreement through which Uruguay will sell 70,000 tons of meat to Brazil.

FURTHER ON FALKLANDS TALKS, RELATED EVENTS

Chamber Approves Sovereignty Bill

PY202032 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1142 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 20 Jul (DYN) -- The Chamber of Deputies early this morning approved a bill that ratifies the Argentine will to peacefully discuss the controversy over the Malvinas Islands with Great Britain, but it conditions any further negotiations to the inclusion of the issue of our sovereignity over that Atlantic archipelago. The bill, which was proposed by Justicialist Deputy Fernando Donaires, was written shortly before Foreign Minister Dante Caputo finished his impromptu speech to the congressmen explaining the reasons for interrupting the negotiations with Great Britain, launched through the good offices of Switzerland. The Chamber also approved a draft declaration, proposed by Peronist Deputy Jose Luis Manzano, that reasserts "Argentina's exclusive sovereignty, rights, and interests in the South Atlantic."

The bill also proposes to request information about a recent news report on an important official of the Chilean Foreign Ministry rejecting the bioceanic principle maintained by Argentina in its dispute over the Beagle Channel. In addition to these two bills, the Chamber of Deputies approved a bill submitted by the executive branch which proposes to prohibit or restrict, according to the case, the use of weapons that are considered to be uncontrollable or excessively harmful, such as mines, traps, and incendiary weapons.

Swiss Embassy Releases Communique

PY201529 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1400 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 20 Jul (NA) -- The Swiss Embassy released here today a document issued by the Swiss Government reporting on the talks that Great Britain and Argentina held in Bern, although it fails to mention the unexpected suspension of the negotiations. The text of the Swiss document is as follows:

"The Swiss moderator and the representatives of the Brazilian Government state the following: At the invitation of the Swiss Government and in the presence of representatives of the Brazilian Government, high-ranking Argentine and British officials met in Bern on 18 and 19 July 1984. "On that occasion, the Argentine side reiterated that in their opinion it is necessary to discuss the implementation of a mechanism allowing a discussion dealing with the sovereignty of the islands. The British side reaffirmed that Her Majesty's government is unwilling to start discussions concerning the sovereignty question.

"The British side suggested proposals in several fields, proposals which could lead, according to Her Majesty's government, to negotiations for a step-by-step normalization of the relations between the two countries. In this regard, the Argentine side made it known that it is unwilling to discuss those points as long as a way for dealing with the sovereignty issue is not studied.

"These talks permitted both sides to have their first direct contact and clearly state their respective points of view.

"The Argentine and British delegations will report to their governments on the development of the talks.

"This communique is released in Bern by the Swiss moderator and the representatives of the Brazilian Government."

Alfonsin on British Attitude

PY201625 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1557 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Formosa, 20 Jul (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin today labeled as "an extravagant display of arrogance" Great Britain's refusal to negotiate sovereignty as part of the agenda of the meeting which London and Buenos Aires representatives started on Wednesday, 18 July, at the suggestion of the Swiss Government, which broke off after a few hours.

Speaking within the framework of his visit to Formosa Province, Alfonsin warned that "without xenophobic outbursts or senseless rhetoric, we are firmly prepared to deal with any threat from abroad."

Kelly Denies Resignation

PY202206 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2108 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 20 Jul (TELAM) -- After meeting with President Alfonsin at Government House, Foreign Relations Secretary Elsa Kelly termed absolutely fallacious reports indicating her dissatisfaction with the foreign minister over the meeting with the British, and she denied rumors that she will probably resign from her post.

Kelly told reporters that she briefed the president on normal issues under her authority at the Foreign Ministry. She added that there is absolutely no problem resulting from the meeting at Bern.

Kelly said that within the next few hours Foreign Minister Dante Caputo will brief the ambassadors from Eastern Europe, Asia, and Africa on the negotiating position adopted by the Argentine Government and the stubborn British position at the recent meeting held in Bern on the South Atlantic islands.

Martinez on Willingness To Talk

PY202330 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2243 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Cordoba, 20 Jul (TELAM) -- Vice President Victor H. Martinez today reiterated here that Argentina is willing to negotiate with Great Britain over the Malvinas Islands. He added that the attitude our country adopted during the talks with the British was an expression of sovereignty.

The Senate president, who today attended a ceremony sponsored by the Radical Civic Union to honor the late leader Horacio Garcia on the first anniversary of his death, said that Great Britain is maintaining its intransigent attitude, particularly through the improper stand of Mrs Thatcher's government.

Speaking with reporters after the ceremony, he reiterated that Argentina is willing to sit at any negotiating table to reaffirm national sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands, which we have never relinquished. "We will have to insist on the need to enact the UN resolutions," he pointed out, "to have Great Britain sit at the negotiating table, because this is a neocolonialist conflict that was not provoked by Argentina. We may have succeeded or failed in the military confrontation, but the Malvinas Islands problem was not caused by the Argentine Republic."

Report of New Talks

PY211503 Paris AFP in Spanish 1423 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jul (AFP) -- Argentina and Great Britain have begun new negotiations to resume in Brasilia the talks interrupted in Bern over the Malvinas Islands issue, according to diplomatic sources in Buenos Aires reported today by the independent newspaper CLARIN.

The same sources indicated that the rapprochement was made by Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo himself during meetings he held on 20 July with Brazilian Ambassador Carlos Duarte de Rocha and Swiss Ambassador Jean Pierre Kuesch, who represent Argentine and British interests, respectively. After the meeting Juesch said that there is still hope, and De Rocha said that the doors are not closed.

CLARIN added that the report of new talks in Brasilia was strengthened by the statement made by Geoffrey Howe, secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, who only 48 hours after the breaking off of the talks in Bern said that his government still believes that the search for normalization of relations between the United Kingdom and Argentina is of mutual interest to both countries. The newspaper also recalled that Eduardo Brunner, secretary of state at the Swiss Foreign Affairs Department and moderator at the Bern meeting, said that the Argentine-British talks did not end in failure and that contacts continue.

On the Argentine side, Vice President Victor Martinez himself said on 20 July that his country is willing to go to any negotiating table, and Foreign Minister Caputo indicated on 19 July that Argentina is willing to continue the talks through the diplomatic channel. However, the two Argentine officials emphasized the sovereignty of the islands, the issue which caused the interruption of the talks in Bern.

Caputo Meets Diplomatic Corps

PY211716 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The information meetings with the diplomatic corps accredited to the Argentine Government continue in the Foreign Ministry this morning. The meetings are related to the interruption of talks with Great Britain over the Malvinas conflict on 18 and 19 July in Bern. Today Foreign Minister Caputo met with ambassadors of the East European countries, including the USSR, and of the African and Asian countries.

Ambassadors Discuss Meeting

PY210222 Buenos Aires Argentina Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Monitored in progress]

[Text] ...One of the most important figures who attended the meeting was U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Frank Ortiz. Following the meeting with Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, we asked him why he was called to the Foreign Ministry.

[Begin Ortiz recording] To listen to an exposition by the foreign minister on what happened yesterday in Bern. He was very kind to extend this invitation to us so that we could inform our governments, and thatis what I intend to do now. [end recording]

Another ambassador who visited the foreign minister's office was the Brazilian ambassador. Our question was: Do you believe that despite the suspension of talks yesterday negotiations will continue?

[Begin Brazilian ambassador's recording] I do not think the doors were closed. I am speaking on a personal basis. We are very optimistic that these talks will be resumed in the future. [end recording]

The Swiss ambassador to our country answered the same question: Will these negotiations continue?

[Begin Swiss ambassador's recording] The two governments will assess the results of this meeting and each government will choose the most appropriate manner to continue the talks. [end recording]

The Indian ambassador to Argentina also attended the meeting and we asked him what the foreign minister told them.

[Begin Indian ambassador's recording] We had the honor to be invited by the foreign minister. As the ambassador of India, I was invited to receive an explanation of what happened in Bern. The foreign minister expressed his desire to continue negotiations. We are all in agreement that Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands is unquestionable. [end recording]

Communique Delayed

PY212150 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 2109 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 21 Jul (TELAM) -- The Argentine Government has delayed the release of an official communique stating its position on future talks with the United Kingdom on the sovereignty dispute over the southern islands. Therefore, the expectations created by the activity observed this weekend at San Martin Palace have also subsided.

After numerous consultations between the Olivos presidential residence and San Martin Palace, it has been decided to delay the issuance of an official communique possibly until Foreign Minister Caputo returns from the United States. He is leaving tonight for the United States on an unofficial visit. By then the foreign minister will have a more comprehensive view of this problem after meeting UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar, the top UN official.

Caputo Departs for U.S.

PY220130 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0050 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 21 Jul (TELAM) -- Foreign Minister Dante Caputo, who departed for Washington tonight at 2200, stated at Ezeiza Airport that tomorrow at 1800 New York time he will talk with UN Secretary Javier Perez de Cuellar about the developments that have taken place and he will brief him on what happened in Bern.

Asked about the possibility of continuing the dialogue with Great Britain, this time in Brasilia, Caputo said that there is no news right now. He added: We are going to present a draft resolution to the United Nations, as planned.

Caputo, who took a regular flight of Argentine Airlines, said that he will return to Buenos Aires on Wednesday. He noted there is no news about the dispute with Chile over the Beagle Channel.

Caputo said that in Washington he will meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz and UN Ambassador Jeane Kirpatrick, and that he will later give a lecture on the political aspects of the Latin American foreign debt.

NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS Analysis

PY212135 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1906 GMT 21 Jul 84

[By Carlos Fernandez]

[Excerpt] How much secrecy can there be in the foreign policy of a democracy? This is the question Minister Caputo insistently asked himself when surprisingly for him the possibility of making some progress over the Malvinas question in the Bern talks with the British fell apart.

Caputo understands that secrecy is indispensable in some questions of foreign policy. So much so that Caputo always makes important decisions at San Martin Palace with only three other persons (Sabato, Romero, and Alconada Sempe), bypassing the teams of professionals in the Foreign Ministry.

It should come as no surprise then that, despite the denials, the attempt at secrecy has also left out Deputy Foreign Minister Elsa Kelly, who learned about the details of the diplomatic operation with Great Britain only after the foreign minister announced it to the national and international press.

Caputo trusted, and still trusts, in the bilateral contacts as a way to make some rapproachement with Great Britain possible. Up to the last minute, the unfolding of events seemed to favor the opinion of the foreign minister, over and above those who think that the Malvinas question must be handled through the UN in accordance with the resolutions proposed by Argentina and approved by the General Assembly in the last 2 years.

The long days of secret negotiations went down the drain when the British intransigently wanted to change the final text of a document that had already been agreed upon, especially as regards the issues of Argentine sovereignty.

In the secret contacts, diplomacy had found a formula to resolve the problem that discussing our sovereignty over the Malvinas would present to the British. The text of the document Caputo had on his desk was the one to be released, and it was specified in it that "the British are not yet in the position" to discuss the question.

Great was the surprise of Marcelo Delpech, the ostensible head of the Argentine delegation, when the diplomats of the United Kingdom stated that they "were decided not to deal" with the question. The Argentine experts say that this was another evidence of the contradiction existing between the Foreign Office and Margaret Thatcher. For these experts, the dynamics of British diplomacy have once more run into the Iron Lady's intransigence, and this explains the change of mind at the last moment.

As long as Mrs Thatcher is in power, it will be very difficult for Argentina to introduce the question of sovereignty over the Malvinas in any agenda of possible contacts with the British. This was stated by the British legislators who visited Argentina recently.

The Argentine Government believes that despite "the overbearing attitude of the British," Argentina gained with the Bern meeting, because it amply revealed before the international public three points:

I. Argentina's peaceful inclinations.

II. Argentina's intention to reinstate the diplomatic situation existing on the Malvinas before the war.

III. The intransigence of the United Kingdom.

The foreign minister has not taken the present lack of results as a failure of his policy. He is convinced that the diplomatic operation was planned in such a way that, one way or the other, it would favor the strategy of San Martin Palace.

If the possibility of another bilateral contact does not come up soon, the Foreign Ministry will have to see that a draft resolution is introduced to the UN General Assembly, insisting on the need for negotiations over the Malvinas question. If nothing happens bilaterally, we will have to resort to the UN and we do not have much time to consult opinions and count votes. It would be ridiculous, however, that the democratic government should get fewer votes of support for the Malvinas cause than the military government.

What would have to happen or what will happen for these bilateral talks to be effective? We would have to wait for a series of gradual signs denoting the reestablishment of some kind of relations, signs such as these: appointment of commercial attaches, trade, elimination of the exclusion zone, de jure declaration of cessation of hostilities, and perhaps the landing of British planes en route to the Malvinas on Argentine territory.

Some Argentine diplomats believe that this step of bilateral talks "was taken somewhat hurriedly," and note that it would have been advisable to wait for another expression of UN support later this year before making the try.

ALFONSIN ATTENDS CEREMONY, DOES NOT SPEAK

PY221550 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1538 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 22 Jul (NA) -- During the ceremony honoring former Mayor Francisco Rabanal on the second anniversary of his death, Deputy Tulio Bernasconi today reaffirmed the commitment of the Radical Civic Union to help abolish the current social works law.

Bernasconi was the sole speaker during the ceremony at Chacarita cemetery which was also attended by President Raul Alfonsin, Interior Minister Antonio Troccoli, Labor Minister Juan Manuel Casella, and Mayor Julio Cesar Saguir.

According to previous announcements, Alfonsin was to be the sole speaker at the ceremony, but the president did not speak.

ALFONSIN, SAUDI BANKER DISCUSS INCREASED TRADE

PY191857 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1648 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jul (DYN) -- President Raul Alfonsin today reviewed with Abdala Saudi, head of the Arla Bank, a bank which has Saudi Arabian and Latin American offices, the possibility that the financial entity may contribute to an increase in the trade between Argentina and the Arab countries.

At the meeting, Saudi was accompanied by Mario Brodersohn, president of the National Development Bank (Banade), who told the press that the prospects for Arab countries to increase their investments in Argentina were also discussed. In turn, Saudi stated that after he agreed with the president on those points it was decided that the experts of the Argentine Government would study the way in which the objectives set may be achieved, especially gearing them for the Arla Bank to effectively contribute to an increase of Argentine exports, thus also assisting the country in obtaining hard currency for settling its foreign debt.

SOVIET MISSION VISITS MISIONES PROVINCE

PY211933 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1210 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Posadas, 21 Jul (TELAM) -- A Soviet commercial mission is in town to establish commercial relations under the Argentine-Soviet trade agreement. The mission is headed by the Soviet commercial representative in Argentina, Aleksandr Kovalev, and its other members are Vladimir Drannikov, Proinge director and secretary to the commercial representative office, Boris Zudov, the charge d'affairs, Horacio Quiroga, a foreign trade expert, and Soviet Embassy translators. [names as received]

Shortly after arriving, the visitors held a working meeting with businessmen of Misiones and Provincial Economy Under Secretary Luis Hilbert in the office of the vice governor.

Vice Governor Luis Maria Cassoni welcomed the foreign trade officials of the Soviet Embassy and explained to them the characteristics of Misiones production and industry.

The Soviet officials analyzed Argentine-Soviet trade relations, giving figures on the trade balance. In 1983 alone, the Soviet Union bought $1.7-million worth of Argentine grain. They also noted the possibilities for increasing trade between the two countries, stressing the conditions of the Soviet Union and other socialist bloc countries as a buying market. They also explained and analyzed existing conditions for the purchase of Misiones products in particular, such as tung oil, soybean, hardwoods, extracts, mate leaves, tea, and tobacco.

At the end, Kovalev talked about Soviet products, equipment, machinery, and technology that could be of interest for the production, agriculture, and industry of Misiones Province.

GABON FOREIGN MINISTER, TRADE DELEGATION ARRIVE

PY211821 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Martin Bongo, Gabonese minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation, today arrived in Argentine heading a trade delegation which is going to meet with government and private sectors. Bongo, who is the brother of the Gabonese president, will be received by Foreign Ministry Secretary Elsa Kelly because Minister Caputo is leaving for the United States tonight.

AIR CHIEF OPPOSES ARMY CHIEF'S PROMOTION

PY202251 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0033 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jul (NA) -- The promotion of the chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff to the rank of lieutenant general may give rise to a "delicate situation" within the Air Force which, according to a news report, could result in the retirement of Air Force Chief of Staff Brigadier General Teodoro Waldner.

According to similar reports from reliable sources and an article published in today's issue of AMBITO FINANCIERO, Waldner will not accept being a subordinate of General Julio Fernandez Torres, whose promotion request to the rank of lieutenant general is being studied by the Senate. Besides this fact and, according to some observers, beyond it, the opposition of the Air Force against the general guidelines of the draft defense bill, which the executive branch will submit to the Senate, must be added.

Given the particular processes within each military branch, Waldner was promoted to brigadier general before Fernandez Torres was promoted to general, an argument that will reportedly be raised by Waldner to justify his stand against being a subordinate of the current Joint Staff chief. Nonetheless, Fernandez Torres is, in theory, Waldner's senior since he belongs to the Army's 79th promotion class, which is equivalent to the Air Force's 15th promotion class, while Waldner belongs to the Air Force's 17th promotion class (the Army's 81st).

According to AMBITO FINANCIERO, in "certain governmental circles" Brigadier General Apolo Gonzalez, who is currently assigned in the United States, has been considered to succeed Waldner. AMBITO FINANCIERO says that "Gonzalez maintains fairly important close relations with the Radical Civic Union leadership and is also a relative of Cordoba Province Governor Eduardo Cesar Angeloz."

The government's decision to promote the Joint Staff chief of the Army's highest rank is a clear sign of the importance the government attaches to the Army in the leadership of the Armed Forces. One source questioned about the issue said that so far the relationship between Fernandez Torres and the chiefs of the three branches has developed "in agreement with their goodwill since the defense law, which establishes the rules of the game after the restructuring of the Armed Forces, has not yet been approved." Official circles have downplayed the significance of the possibility that Fernandez' promotion will cause problems. In this regard, it was stated that when the time comes the charters of the three branches will be analyzed to adapt them to the upcoming military changes, changes which will force permanent interbranch activities, activities where all "speculations and suspicions" on ranks and duties will have to be eradicated.

ARMED FORCES SUPREME COUNCIL ADVOCATE REPLACED

PY191815 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1547 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 19 Jul (DYN) -- It was learned from reliable sources that a decree accepting the resignation requested by the secretary general of the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces, Judge Advocate Colonel Jorge Gonzalez Ramirez, has been submitted to President Alfonsin for his signature. This decision was made by Defense Minister Raul Borras who has appointed Lieutenant Eduardo Raul Senderoiz to replace Gonzalez Ramirez. Gonzalez Ramirez had requested his relief over a month ago in order to retire, claiming personal reasons.

CENTRAL BANK PRESIDENT CONFIRMS DEBT PAYMENT

PY211727 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The president of the Central Bank, Enrique Garcia Vazquez, has said that Argentina will repay on the established date, 31 July, the loan of $300 million granted by Mexico, Venezuela, Colombia, and Brazil. Vazquez said that the payment will be made even if an agreement with the IMF is not reached by that date.

PAZ ZAMORA 'SUSPECTED' OF COUP INVOLVEMENT

PY212140 Paris AFP in Spanish 1743 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] La Paz, 21 Jul (AFP) -- Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has canceled his visit to Bolivia because of suspicions that Bolivian Vice President Jaime Paz Zamora was involved in the aborted coup on 30 June when President Siles Zuazo was kidnapped for 10 hours, the weekly AQUI of the radical left reported today. The weekly, which does not mention any sources specifically, bases its report on statements made by Paz Zamora in Madrid on 26 June in favor of the removal of Army Commander General Simon Sejas Tordoya. The timing of the statements coincided with a rebellion at the Command and Joint Staff School (ECEM).

General Tordoya, who was confirmed in his position by President Siles Zuazo, is considered to be the military structure's cornerstone of support for the constitutional government. The weekly also notes the participation of Major Luis Ardaya Roca, head of the vice president's military aides, in the thwarted coup. AQUI also mentions the warning that something was going to happen in the next few hours given to journalists and friends on the day prior to the aborted coup by current Housing and Urban Affairs Minister Guillermo Capobianco and the International Relations Secretariat of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) which participates in the government. Sources of the vice president's office denied the AQUI report, which they referred to as slanderous and irresponsible, and promised to issue a communique on this matter.

BANK COMMITTEE REJECTS DEBT POSTPONEMENT

PY201850 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Bolivian Finance Minister Oscar Bonifaz reported that Bolivia's decision to temporarily postpone its foreign debt payment has been labeled as "unilateral" and was rejected by the Bank Coordinating Committee which is headed by the Bank of America. Minister Bonifaz himself had undertaken negotiations in Miami with the Bank Coordinating Committee which represents 128 banks that are creditors of the Bolivian foreign debt. However, the Bolivian Government still has to explain within a 90-day term the reasons for making such a decision. Bonifaz said: We will explain the reasons for the national government's sovereign decision. We will methodically arrange and streamline our reply in order to prevent future problems. He then added: This will be done taking into consideration the economic crisis the country is undergoing. Bonifaz then gave to the national and local reporters the note from (Ulrich Martens), president of the Bank Coordinating Committee, to the Bolivian finance minister. The most important parts of the note are the rejection and decision adopted by the international organization. The note states:

The Bank Coordinating Committee firmly rejects the Bolivian decision to stop paying the interests owed to foreign commercial banks. The Coordinating Committee will recommend to its respective boards of directors and all the other banks that are creditors of the government of Bolivia and its autonomous companies, the following position: Considering that the Bolivian Government needs more time to define its program for economic recovery and to achieve progress in its negotiations with IMF and World Bank programs, we are willing to meet again with the representatives of the Bolivian Government 90 days from today, as long as by the end of the 90 days the Bolivian Government seriously begins to negotiate with the Bank Coordinating Committee in order to refinance the foreign debt based on an economic recovery program.

The Bolivian Government at that time will resume the minimum monthly payments and interests that are very similar to the interest payments disbursed prior to April 1984. If these detailed conditions are not complied with, the Bank Coordinating Committee will recommend to all the banks that are creditors of the Bolivian public sector to take any action they deem appropriate.

Meanwhile, this Bank Coordinating Committee wishes to establish a specific work group made up of representatives of the Bolivian Government and an economic subcommittee of the U.S. Government international development Agency, of the IMF, of the World Bank, of the IDB, and our own Bank Coordinating Committee, in order to determine the economic capacity of Bolivia to comply with the payments of its foreign debt, and to study the Bolivian Government's program for economic recovery. The place and date for the first meeting of the specific work group will be given in due time.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM EUROPE, U.S.

PY211444 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1130 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Bolivian Foreign Minister Gustavo Fernandez has returned from Europe where he held important meetings with European chiefs of state. The Bolivian foreign minister visited Switzerland and the United States. On returning to the country, he presented a broad report to the president of the Republic. Later he talked to the press and said that his trip was positive, because he became convinced of growing European support for Bolivian democracy.

NEGOTIATIONS WITH U.S. OIL COMPANIES SUCCESSFUL

PY201419 Paris AFP in Spanish 008 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] La Paz, 19 Jul (AFP) -- Energy Minister Luis Saucedo Justiniano said here today that the Bolivian Government will fully back private investments, particularly those made in the hydrocarbons sector. The energy minister made this statement after holding a meeting with representatives from the U.S. oil companies Tesoro Oil Company and Occidental Petroleum Company which have been operating in Bolivia since 1974 and which recently announced their plans to leave the country since they lacked sufficient guarantees for their investments and activities.

Both companies have invested over $700 million according to reports issued in La Paz. During the recent labor conflict led by the Bolivian Labor Federation (COB), the government agreed to review the operations contract and decrease the amount that Bolivia pays the two companies for the purchase of hydrocarbons. The energy minister noted that the negotiations with U.S. companies were successful and that it was agreed to settle debts over the delivery of oil and natural gas to Bolivian Government Oil Deposits (YPFB), the government oil company.

ACCOUNTS 'JUGGLED' TO MEET IMF-IMPOSED TARGETS

PY210332 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Jul 84 p 19

[Text] Brasilia -- Finance Minister Ernane Galveas was euphoric yesterday when he announced that Brazil will not request a "waiver" (relinquishment from obligations to meet economic targets) from the IMF because all the targets that had been set for the first half of the year were met. The good news will be transmitted today to Ana Maria Jull, deputy chief of the Atlantic Division of the IMF, who will arrive in Brazil on 23 July to evaluate the country's compliance with the IMF agreement. An IMF mission will come to Brazil for the same purpose next August.

According to Galveas, since all the targets were met, the negotiations with the IMF missions will focus on the evaluation of the economic adjustment program through September and on the definition of targets for this year's last quarter.

Under the agreement signed with the IMF, at the end of the first half of the year foreign currency reserves should have been more than $4.2 billion and new external debts should not have been more than $6.8 billion.

On the internal front, the liquid internal credit target through June was 4.55 trillion cruzeiros, and Brazil kept it at 3.16 trillion cruzeiros, thus undershooting the target by 1.39 trillion cruzeiros. The operational public deficit (excluding corrections for inflation) account will close at 300 billion cruzeiros, and the nominal public deficit (including inflation) at 23.7 trillion cruzeiros.

Before Galveas' announcement yesterday, it was said that it would be necessary to request a "waiver" because of the difficulty in meeting the target for nominal public deficit. Government experts revealed that accounts had to be juggled to meet the target, thus posting a record surplus of 766 billion cruzeiros in the Treasury's cash in June through the expedient of delaying disbursements of funds to several government agencies.

OIL TARGET SET AT 600,000 BARRELS DAILY

PY210212 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The Brazilian oil production target for 1985 is 600,000 barrels a day. Speaking at the closing session of the meetings with the Mines Energy Ministry-84, Minister Cesar Cals today stressed the government's efforts to attain oil self-sufficiency. The minister, who spoke in Belem, also said that the new oil production target, expected to be attained by the end of President Joao Figueiredo's term, is 600,000 barrels a day.

LABOR MINISTER SAYS PROFESSORS' STRIKE IS ILLEGAL

PM210251 Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 19 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] In a resolution signed on 18 July, Labor Minister Murillo Macedo declared illegal the 64-day-old strike by professors at 28 autonomous universities. Education Minister Esther Ferraz has suspended disbursements of funds for payment of salaries to personnel and has empowered the presidents of those universities to apply the Strike Law, which provides for punishments such as warnings, suspensions, or dismissals with justifiable cause. Despite the measures adopted by the government 13 statewide assemblies of professors and 5 assemblies of university employees have decided to continue the strike. The university presidents have met to analyze the situation and decided to negotiate individually with the Education Ministry over the suspension of funds.

Further Report

PY211448 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Report from Brasilia by Carlos Rodrigues]

[Text] Twenty-seven out of the 28 autonomous universities will continue striking. The results of the meetings held in different states have been released here in Brasilia by the command of professors on strike.

Officials of Pernambuco rural university have decided to return to work on 29 July. The other universities will continue the strike. The professors hope for new negotiations with the government to meet their demands. The professors want better salaries and a higher budget for education.

The Education Ministry has reported here in Brasilia that the university hospitals in different states are only taking emergency cases. Only the emergency department, the intensive care units and the maternity wards are functioning in these hospitals.

REPORTAGE ON NATIONAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN

Chaves To Create New Party

PY210004 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Brasilia -- Vice President Aureliano Chaves will leave the Social Democratic Party [PDS] before striking a formal agreement with the opposition on the sponsoring of Tancredo Neves' candidacy. Aureliano will thus try not to appear a traitor to the ruling party. In addition, in another action that he will undertake before the agreement with the opposition, he will release a manifesto announcing the creation of a new political party within the next few days. Dissidents, particularly of the PDS, will join the new party.

Chief of Staff on Neves

PY211701 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes in Portuguese 0230 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] In the opinion of General Valdir de Vasconcellos, chief of the Armed Forces Joint Staff, EMFA, the country will not run the risk of sliding leftward because of Tancredo Neves, who is a candidate for the nation's presidency. He added that Neves will not initiate any drive toward the left, but the opposition parties form a kaleidoscope representing all shades, such as the Communist Party of Brazil, the Brazilian Communist Party, the Revolutionary Movement 8 October, and others. General Vasconcellos observed, however, that for Neves to get support implies making concessions.

Chaves Rejects PDS Agreement

PY211243 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 0230 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Tomorrow's papers will report that the government is still making an effort to bring about changes in the presidential succession picture, although it is considered to have reached a practically irreversible stage. In this regard, the Planalto Palace is again trying to reach a consensus around a third candidate in a final attempt to unite the Social Democratic Party [PDS]. PDS president Augusto Franco and Minister Leitao de Abreu, a Civilian Cabinet member, met with Vice President Aureliano Chaves today. But this effort failed as Chaves rejected the request to prevent the alliance between the PDS Liberal Front and the Brazilian Democratic Mobilization Party [PMDB] and to try to reach an agreement with the PDS, the ruling party.

Aureliano Chaves has rejected a request to reach an agreement with the PDS. This has been a fast-moving Friday for the Jaburu Palace, the vice presidential office building. PDS President Deputy Augusto Franco and Deputy Magalahes Pinto, of the PDS Minas Gerais branch, visited Aureliano and asked him to review his decision to support the candidacy of Tancredo Neves to the presidency. Late in the afternoon, Chaves received another important visitor, Minister Leitao de Abreu, the government's political coordinator, who reiterated the request. Since he also failed to convince Chaves, Leitao de Abreu did not stay at the Jaburu Palace for too long; upon leaving the building, he refused to talk to reporters.

In the evening, in a brief dialogue with reporters, Aureliano said: The position I adopted yesterday remains unchanged. He added that the first phase of the agreement with the opposition has already been concluded and that a democratic alliance has been created to support Tancredo Neves' candidacy. Aureliano also said that the negotiations over the program of the future government and over the role that parties will play in each state will continue on 24 July.

Franco Favors Maluf Withdrawal

PY211330 Sao Paulo Radio Bandeirantes Network in Portuguese 1000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] In Brasilia Social Democratic Party [PDS] President Augusto Franco has referred to the idea of withdrawing by force the candidacy of Deputy Paulo Maluf. According to Franco, this would be the only solution to the PDS crisis.

Franco stated that to put it into effect, democracy must suffer some bruises, something that occasionally occurs in the country. The PDS president declined to further comment on the possibility of implementing this coercive measure he is advocating.

Maluf Meets Figueiredo

PY192207 Rio de Janeiro LATIN AMERICA DAILY POST in English 19 Jul 84 p 1

[Text] Brasilia, DAILY POST -- Presidential candidate and federal Deputy Paulo Maluf emerged from a meeting with President Figueiredo Wednesday saying that he had convinced the president he would be elected president by the Electoral College if he captures the government party [PDS] nomination.

Maluf met for one hour with Figueiredo and civil cabinet chief Leitao de Abreu amid speculation that the former governor of Sao Paulo and actual frontrunner in the race to grab the PDS party nomination might be asked to renounce his candidacy. Instead, however, Maluf after the meeting said that he had demonstrated to Figueiredo that if he captures the party nomination, he will be victorious in the Electoral College, which will select Brazil's next president.

Maluf said that he discussed each of the 686 delegates to the college and showed Figueiredo that he has enough votes to win the presidency with a majority of 70 delegates. According to Maluf, Figueiredo said he was convinced by the deputy's statements and added that he would campaign for the party candidate who will emerge in September when the PDS meets. At the present moment the only remaining candidates from the government party are Maluf and Interior Minister Mario Andreazza. Maluf stated that Figueiredo, in his promise to back the party nominee and to campaign for him, made no statement as to whom he personally favors between the two candidates.

Similar Claim

In Belo Horizonte, Andreazza said after a meeting with PDS delegates to the party convention that he has enough votes to capture the party nomination. Maluf has already made a similar claim.

In his discussion with Figueriedo, Maluf said he showed the president that the proposed alliance between the PDS dissident group known as the Liberal Front and the opposition parties would not hold together in the Electoral College. The hopes of the opposition parties at present are that with the votes of PDS dissidents they will be able to form a majority in the college and elect their candidate, most likely Minas Gerais Governor Tancredo Neves, as president. On Thursday Figueiredo told PDS politicians that he feared the possibility of an opposition victory in the Electoral College because he believes that the moderate elements in the opposition camp can't control the radicals. Wednesday, Figueiredo repeated this same argument to PDS Deputy Antonio Dias, saying that if the opposition wins the election, the country will inevitably move to the left.

BRIEFS

100-KW TRANSMISSION UNIT DEDICATED -- Communications Minister Haroldo de Mattos dedicated a new transmission unit fitted with a 100-kw transmitter in the Pernambuco Radio Ckub on 19 July 1984. During the dedication ceremony, the minister said that Brazil has more than 10 million telephones in approximately 8,200 towns and cities. On the same day, the minister also dedicated the new facilities of the Rio Grande de Norte Telecommunications Company in Natal. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 19 Jul 84 PY]

NEW OIL WELL -- The Brazilian Petroleum Corporation has reported the discovery of a new oil well. The well has been named Rio de Haniero Submarino 294. The well is producing 4,200 barrels per day from 2,710 meters deep. The crude is of good quality for the international market because gasoline and disesel oil can be made from it. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 17 Jul 84 PY]

DEBT PAYMENTS TO CONSUME ECONOMIC GROWTH

WA231200 Rome IPS in English 19 Jul 84

[By Luis Alberto Jara]

[Text] Santiago, July 19 (IPS) -- Chile's foreign debt payments will eat up any economic growth the country sees in the next five years, Treasury Minister Luis Escobar Cerda warned this week. "All the growth in the gross domestic product (GDP) which is generated from now until 1989 must go to pay interest on the foreign debt," according to a new ministry report. Chile's debts now are estimated unofficially at more than $23 billion.

But even if Chile freezes the level of domestic goods and services and devoted all growth to debt payments, it would not be enough to meet the annual debt interest payments of about $2.3 billion over the next five years, according to the treasury ministry report. "The country will need significant additional foreign financing," Escobar warned.

According to official figures, Chile had the third largest per capita debt in Latin America last year -- $1,480 per citizen topped only by Panama, with $1,750, and Venezuela with $1,694.

Several days after the Latin American debtors' meeting June 21-22 in Cartagena, Colombia, Escobar was among many regional economists who noted that Latin America's debt problem has now expanded beyond the financial arena and become a political problem. He called on the main industrial countries to study the debt issue, "because it is too important to be managed by financiers."

Chile, like most other Latin American debtor countries, argues for longer terms and lower interest rates on the foreign debt, a demand that has grown more insistent due to the two-percent increase this year in the U.S. interest rate, which now stands at 13 percent. Chile's steadily mounting foreign debts have put this country of 11.5 million people, whole mainstay is copper production, in a critical economic situation which is threatening to cause serious social unrest.

In 1970, Chile owed $5.263 billion, but by 1980 the total had mounted to almost $11 billion, and by the end of 1983 had risen to $18.6 billion. Chile's latest credits were a bridge loan of $1.3 billion borrowed from private banks last year, a $1.7-billion short-term bank loan and a $780-billion credit recently granted by the International Monetary Fund. The interest charges and rising international interest rates also add considerably to the basic debt total.

An IMF mission is now in Santiago for an in-depth study of the Chilean economy, including the government's proposal for an increase in the budget deficit from 4.5 to 5.5 percent to promote a three-year economic recovery plan. The IMF experts are also studying rescheduling the Chilean debt payments which mature after this year.

Harry Taylor, president of Manufacturers Hanover Trust, which heads the 12-Bank Committee representing Chile's creditor banks, will reportedly visit Santiago next month for a look at the government's economic plan. A spokesperson for Taylor in New York denied he would make the trip, however.

Both Escobar and Economy Minister Modesto Collados agree that Chile must push for economic growth to generate funds to pay the foreign debts. The three growth levers, according to the treasury minister, are incentives for saving, promotion of exports, and encouragement of private foreign investment in Chile. But the international economic situation poses serious obstacles to that strategy, and the two-percent increase in the U.S. prime rate this year has jacked up Chile's foreign debt by $380 million.

In addition, the United States is expected to apply protectionist measures to Chilean copper imports, which would effect 30 percent, or 320,000 metric tons, of Chile's total foreign copper sales. The expected U.S. move and the higher interest rates have depressed the price of copper on the London market, causing another serious problem for the Chilean budget, since economic officials had projected 1984 reserves on an average copper price of 75 cents per pound, but it has now fallen to only 64.7 cents. For every cent the world copper price drops, Chile's annual income decreases by about $28 million. Government economists estimate that the interest rate increases and the expected U.S. copper restriction will cost Chile about $450 million this year. Chile's exports are projected at $4.03 billion in 1984, with imports estimated at $3.11 billion, according to Treasury Ministry figures. Chile is now depending on negotiations with the IMF and private banks to refinance the debt payments, but analysts here point out that the rescheduling will in effect only postpone the commitments.

NAVY CHIEF DENIES POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING FLEET

PY201405 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Navy Commander Jose Toribio Merino has stated that the political timetable will not be changed. He added that the Armed Forces will not allow the return of the chaos and anarchy that caused the uprising of 11 September 1973.

Asked about the possible purchase of war materiel by the Navy, Admiral Merino said that there are no plans to expand the fleet. He added: There is no budget for it. What money we have available must be used in other, more important areas.

REAL ESTATE CASE TRIAL OF PINOCHET AIDE BEGINS

PY202137 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0447 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Santiago, 19 Jul (EFE) -- A judge from the 2d Criminal Court has started the proceedings in the misdemeanor suit against Colonel Ramon Castro Ivanovic, who was General Augusto Pinochet's trustee in the real estate dealing that prompted charges of fraud committed against the revenue office.

The lawsuit started last May when a group of 24 opposition leaders, led by Andres Zaldivar, president of the World Union of Christian Democrats, accused the Chilean chief of state of "fraud against the revenue office" and "illegal negotiations." The courts appointed Alberto Echavarria claimed that he had no jurisdiction and ruled that Pinochet was "immune." Echavarria then forwarded the dossier involving Col Castro Ivanovic to the 2d Criminal Court.

Col Castro Ivanovic acted as Gen Pinochet's trustee in the real estate dealings concerning property located in the Andean foothills, near Santiago, in the area known as "El Melocoton."

POLICE SEARCH FOR TWO OPPOSITION LEADERS

WA231230 Rome IPS in English 19 Jul 84

[Text] Santiago, July 19 (IPS) -- The Chilean police launched an intense search today for two opposition leaders the military government is trying to expel from the country. The families of Jaime Insunza and Leopoldo Ortega told reporters today that police officers had shown up at their homes with detention orders from the interior ministry for the two leaders.

Insunza and Ortega were expelled from Chile April 7 on charges by the Interior Ministry that they "endangered internal peace." They returned when an appeals court ruled in their favor on June 22. The military government promptly detained them for five days.

An appeals court set them free in a ruling that legal analysts said was a blow to Article 24 of the Constitution, which allows the government to expel citizens deemed a threat to the public order. But the Supreme Court then overruled the appeals court and said the Interior Ministry had the authority to expel Insunza and Ortega.

The left-wing opposition Popular Democratic Movement (MDP), of which Insunza was secretary general, rejected the expulsion order and said the two leaders had the right to live in Chile.

One MDP leader, when asked if Insunza and Ortega had gone underground, said, "They have the right to remain in Chile, exercising their right to live in their homeland."

Dr Ortega was once a member of the Chilean Human Rights Commission, whose current president, Jaime Castillo Velasco, has rejected the expulsion, charging that Chileans are "absolutely defenseless against the selectivity with which the regime can apply the law."

Insunza Message

PY212215 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1922 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Santiago, 21 Jul (EFE) -- Secretary General of the Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) Jaime Insunza issued today a message from hiding, saying that both he and Leopoldo Ortega will try to prevent "the consummation of the new, arbitrary measure of expelling us from the country."

Insunza and Ortega are being sought by the police on an order from the Interior Ministry, issued after the Supreme Court reversed a decision by the appellate court which had allowed them to return from exile.

INTERIOR MINISTRY ORDERS MDP LEADER DETAINED

PY202245 Santiago Radio Cooperativa in Spanish 1715 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Interior Under Secretary Alberto Cardemil has said that People's Democratic Movement, MDP, member Juan Parra has been detained on orders from the Interior Ministry because the government will not tolerate any official or underground activity by the Movement of the Revolutionary Left, MIR, or by anyone claiming to be a spokesman for the MIR. Cardemil was asked about the status of Parra, who regards himself as a spokesman for the MIR and as the substitute for Father Marotto within the MDP.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] What is the status of Mr Parra?

[Cardemil] Mr Parra has been detained on orders from the Interior Ministry, because it must be made quite clear that the government will not tolerate any official or underground activity by the MIR or by anyone claiming to be a spokesman for the MIR. This is quite clear. The MIR is an openly terrorist movement, and the government will use all available means to fight terrorism.

[Second reporter] What sanctions will be imposed on Mr Parra? Will he be banished?

[Cardemil] His situation is under study. Meanwhile, he remains in custody at the Intelligence Center headquarters. [end recording]

Cardemil explained that the Interior Ministry must decide on the sanctions to be imposed on Mr Parra within 5 days.

JUDGE LIFTS CHARGES AGAINST FOUR COMMUNISTS

PY211449 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Judge Alberto Echavarria has temporarily lifted the charges against four Communists accused for violating Law 77 on illegal association and disseminating Marxist doctrine. The judge made this decision because the violation of the law was not completely established. The resolution affects Communists Victor Contreras, Victor Galleguillos, Juan Acevedo, and Maria Maluenda.

JOURNALIST ARRESTED IN LEIGH INVESTIGATION

PY201421 Paris AFP in Spanish 2211 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Santiago, 19 Jul (AFP) -- According to her lawyers, journalist Monica Gonzalez Mujica, the author of an interview with General Gustavo Leigh, a former member of the Chilean Government Junta, was arrested today in Santiago when she refused to hand over the original tapes of the interview. The journalist was arrested by civilian police agents at the offices of the opposition magazine CAUCE, of Social Democratic leanings, which a month ago published the interview in which Leigh criticized President Augusto Pinochet.

While in court, Monica Gonzalez refused to hand over the complete recordings of her interview with General Leigh by noting that her refusal is in keeping with professional ethics.

Judge Orders Release

PY211345 Sandiago Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The appellate court has ordered the release of a CAUCE magazine journalist. The court accepted the request submitted on behalf of the journalist and against the order given by Judge (Marta Osa Raigada), who processed the accusation of the Interior Ministry against General Leigh, retired, for violating the state security law.

The appellate court by 2 votes to 1 decided that Monica Gonzalez, journalist of the magazine CAUCE, has the right to keep a professional secret. Therefore, she cannot be forced to reveal the contents of the recordings during the interview with General Leigh.

BRIEFS

GOLD, SILVER PRODUCTION -- Santiago, 8 Jul (EFE) -- The gold and silver production at the Ventanos refinery in Valparaiso, 150 km west of Santiago, has increased by 24 and 40 percent, respectively, in the first half of 1984. This was reported by the manager of the refinery, which is owned by the National Mining Enterprise (ENAMI). In the first half of 1984, a total of 70,406 kg of silver and 3,066 kg of gold were refined. At market prices, this is worth $59 million. [Excerpts] [Madrid EFE in Spanish 1235 GMT 8 Jul 84 PY]

BETANCUR SPEAKS AT OPENING SESSION OF CONGRESS

PA211922 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1738 GMT 21 Jul 84

[By Margarita Meza]

[Excerpts] Bogota, 20 Jul (EFE) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur proposed a pact of solidarity to the Congress today on the occasion of the opening session of the Senate and Chamber of Deputies.

Speaking before the legislative houses, the head of state expressed his hope that the government's efforts to create the necessary conditions for peace will become an incentive for the Colombians to work and will serve to restore tranquility in vast sectors of the country, so as to boost agriculture and livestock production.

On the subject of drug trafficking, the president said that the negative effects of this plight on the economy have not been given sufficient consideration.

He added that "our collective ethics, our dignity, Colombia's image abroad and the peace process have all been compromised by organizations that have extended beyond our national borders and aspired domestically to ever-higher positions of political power."

Betancur reiterated that Colombia wanted to engage in dialogue with the United States in order to clarify and revise the list of crimes covered by extradition rights, given the treaty that exists between the two countries, so that only common crimes and drug trafficking will be covered by the document.

The Colombian president expressed the hope that the political parties will respond to the Colombian people by approving bills that will seek solutions to pressing national needs.

On the country's foreign policy, he declared that it is imperative that the nation secure greater independence and liberty in the face of the large world power blocs, and that it establish ties of solidarity with the countries of Latin America.

The president noted that progress has been achieved in the demarcation of the country's maritime borders, saying that "the government intends to advance in the process of maritime delimitation with a defined strategy that will permit the fair resolution of those issues that are still pending."

On the issue of Latin America's foreign debt, Betancur said that the picture could not be more somber.

The "Cartagena Consensus" was a sensible response for resolving those problems, he said, adding that "it would be absurd if the industrialized countries, financial institutions, and private banks were to turn a deaf ear and refuse to engage in a dialogue that would be convenient for all parties."

Further Report

PA210350 Paris AFP in Spanish 2338 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Bogota, 20 Jul (AFP) -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur charged today that big nations abuse small ones through their sheer power. He also held the "diabolical" arms race responsible for obstructing peace in the world.

While opening Senate and Chamber of Representatives sessions, Betancur said that "naked power of special interests and unequal status in trade and economic relations are commonplace in today's world." Betancur predicted: "So long as this situation prevails, peace will be threatened everywhere, and we run the risk of being engulfed in conflicts involving more and more countries." He added that countries would also be threatened by reduced control in "the handling of economic affairs, to the detriment of national equity goals."

Betancur announced, however, that his government will continue seeking a negotiated solution to the Central American crisis, and he defended Contadora Group efforts. The Colombian president demanded stronger support for the Group's efforts and that nations of the world make a good will commitment to assist economically the countries in conflict in order to ensure peace in the region.

Betancur demanded fairer treatment regarding the Latin American countries' foreign debts and said that the foreign debts' "equitable solution depends not only on the developing countries' domestic order, but on the international financial order." In explaining Colombia's decision to offer its cooperation for an agreement among Latin American countries, Betancur warned: "the structure of the world's economy and political stability depend on this solution."

Betancur justified his having offered Bogota as an impartial site for talks between Salvadoran guerrillas and the Government, adding that all possible efforts will be made to attain a peaceful solution in Central America.

The president announced a foreign ministers' meeting to discuss responses and suggestions by countries involved in the Central American conflict regarding the Contadora document for peace and cooperation. Betancur said: "The success of the negotiations now depends not so much on the efforts of the nations that have made good will commitments as on the Central American countries' political decisions."

He also stated that once a peace agreement is reached other states will be invited to sign a special protocol for effective support of the pacts reached within the framework of the Contadora Group.

Betancur said that peace among nations is indispensable for attaining sovereignty, but he rejected using that peace as a basis for temporary alliances and truces leading to escalation of violence.

The Colombian president said in conclusion: "Colombians aspire to domestic peace in justice and equity with other nations."

REPORTAGE ON AIR INCURSION IN SAN ANDRES

'Sandinist' Bombing

PA202203 Bogata Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 2134 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Indications are that President Belisario Betancur has been delayed in his arrival at the capitol [to address legislative assembly]. We have established that (?this is due) to his maintaining contact with the military leadership regarding an incident on that, as Cadena Super reported, took place over one of Colombia's cays in the San Andres and Providencia archipelago. Let me repeat the story. Very early this morning a military plane which did not belong to Colombia flew over the archipelago. Before leaving our territory it dropped a couple of bombs over one of these cays. Unofficial reports indicate that this bombing, this attack on Colombian sovereignty, was carried out by Sandinist forces, in other words by the regime ruling Nicaragua.

Aircraft 'Presumed' to be U.S.

PA211753 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 1730 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Barranquilla -- Naval Station Commander Frigate Captain Alberto Charry Samper has urged San Andres residents to remain calm in the event of new attacks by mercenary aircraft of unknown origin, such as those that took place on Thursday and early Friday morning.

Island residents were surprised by these air attacks by planes of unknown nationality, which bombed the coasts of Serrania Cay without doing serious damage.

The naval commander said emphatically that more than 5,000 marines, Mirage-5 aircraft, 37 other Colombian Air Force planes, 2 missile-carrying corvettes, and several speedboats are prepared to defend Colombia's coasts.

Despite the fact that the nationality of the planes that conducted the cowardly attack on Colombia's sovereignty has not been confirmed, it is presumed that they were U.S. planes, and it is hoped that the action is not repeated.

President Betancur is in constant communication with the naval commander, to keep himself informed about the investigation into the attack and to learn of any further attacks. Commander Charry Samper reported that the Colombian Government intends to discover the reasons for the "cowardly attack."

State of Alert Canceled

PA221241 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0742 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Excerpts] San Andres (Colombia), 22 Jul (EFE) -- The state of alert that had been imposed on the Colombian Armed Forces has now been lifted, in view of the normally prevailing in the archipelago of San Andres and Providencia after unidentified aircraft violated its airspace.

The "A-37" aircraft that were sent to reinforce the "San Andres Specific Command" units have returned to their bases, given the calm in the region. On Friday, which was Colombia's Independence Day, two unidentified aircraft overflew the cays and dropped bombs near Serrania, without doing any damage.

The marines who were guarding the cays of the archipelago have kept their reinforcements, and the members of the Armed Forces on the islets are still confined to garrison.

The Navy reported that the foreign aircraft did not return and that they were unable to identify them, but that the situation is completely normal in the island region of northern Colombia. Navy Captain Alberto Charry Samper, military commander of the region of the archipelago, reported that yesterday's patrols revealed nothing of concern to the military units and that the alert was suspended as a result.

PRC PRESIDENT SENDS CONGRATULATORY NOTE

PA201601 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1213 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Bogota -- The PRC Government wished Colombia greater success in safeguarding the country's sovereignty in a message addressed to President Belisario Betancur today on the occasion of the 174th anniversary of Colombia's independence. It also noted the need to further develop the two countries' relations of friendship and cooperation.

President Li Xiannian said in Beijing that the PRC is willing to further develop its relations with Colombia. He congratulated the Colombian people, in the message he sent to Betancur, and praised Colombia's role in strengthening Latin American unity and cooperation.

The PRC president's message states:

I offer my sincere wishes that the Colombian Government and people achieve even greater success in safeguarding the country's sovereignty, in building the country, and in strengthening Latin American unity and cooperation, a goal that is constantly consolidated and developed in the relations of friendship and cooperation between the PRC and Colombia.

The PRC president also expressed the wish for prosperity for Colombia and well-being for its people.

REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT GUERRILLA CEASE-FIRE

Obstacles Discussed

PA230229 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 18 Jul 84 p 8 A

[Excerpt] The latest developments indicate that the possibilities for a cease-fire agreement among the government, the 19 April Movement, and the Peoples Liberation Army [EPL] guerrilla groups still face some obstacles which might make the signing of this agreement difficult in its original form. Although it had been announced that the agreement was virtually drawn up and that a few "procedural matters" -- which would be worked out before 7 August when Belisario Betancur celebrates his second year in office -- were stil pending, M-19 leader Alvaro Fayad Delgado said yesterday that no date has yet been established to conclude negotiations.

He said that there are still differences over what he termed "the military pressure in rural areas" where his guerrilla fronts operate, and over the suspension of the state of siege.

"We still cannot set a date for the signing of the agreement because important issues such as the suspension of the state of siege and military measures for rural areas have not been decided upon," Fayad Delgado said. Last week the M-19 interrupted traffic along the highway to Popayan which prompted an immediate reaction from the army in that southwestern part of the country.

Fayad Delgado warned that "these are issues over which we must reach a compromise with the government," and noted that once this agreement is signed "we will suspend all of our operations." "However," he cautioned, "if the army attacks us before the signing of the agreement, we will strike back."

He complained to the Peace Commission about the "military pressure." The commission members brought this issue before Government Minister Jaime Castro who in turn brought it to the attention of the Council of Ministers which met yesterday.

Commission President John Agudelo Rios was cautious about this matter and simply remarked that the peace process had not suffered any changes. He maintained that according to reports obtained by the subcommissions sent out to different locations in the country, the cease-fire violations charges are not significant and all the problems that have appeared are being solved.

M-19 Urges Support of Truce

PA200301 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Bogota -- The 19 April Movement [M-19] guerrilla organization today urged all sectors of Colombian society to support the truce that it will sign with the Belisario Betancur administration next week. In a bulletin sent to local and foreign media, the M-19 states that the truce is the forerunner of a dialogue to discuss Colombia's problems and that "the current political moment is important to the country's future and well-being." The bulletin demands support for and promotion of the industrial sector, low-priced and quality public services, freedom of movement and assembly and states that Colombia must be governed with sovereignty and that hostilities must end. "To find political and not military solutions to the ongoing national crisis is the bottom line of our proposal for a national dialogue," the M-19 states in its message to the press.

Clashes With Rebels in Cordoba

PA201502 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Monteria -- Six presumed guerrillas belonging to the Peoples Liberation Army, EPL, were allegedly killed during fighting that has been underway between rebels and military troops near Sierra Alta, in Cordoba Department, since yesterday. Military sources confirmed to Caracol today that there have been six clashes between the guerillas and the troops to date. More members of Junin Battalion have just departed for the combat area in helicopters, to reinforce the patrols that are pursuing the guerrillas. It was reported that six guerrillas have been killed while the army has sustained no casualties.

BRIEFS

OIL RESERVES -- Rodolfo Segovia Salas, the president of Ecopetrol, the Colombian Petroleum Enterprise, reported during a speech before the Barranquilla Civic Association that 8 new fields with between 150 and 200 million barrels of reserves have been discovered between January and June 1984. He noted that Colombia's reserves total 630 million barrels and that this year a total of 50 wells will be drilled. He reported that national production is currently 166,000 barrels per day and that the Andean pipeline will be shut down in August. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 12 Jul 84 p 12-b PA]

EXPORT STATISTICS -- Export Promotion Fund [Proexpo] Director Alberto Schlesinger Velez has announced that Colombian exports totalled $1.4876 billion during the first 6 months of 1984, which is 20.5 percent above exports for the same period last year. Exports of nontraditional products totalled $573.6 million, an increase of $80 million of 16.1 percent over the first 6 months of 1983. [Summary] [Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 13 Jul 84 pp 1, 15 PA]

OIL AGREEMENT WITH MEXICO -- Bogota -- An oil agreement has been signed between Colombia and Mexico which will go into effect between October and November. Mexican Ambassador to Colombia Antonio Calzada Urquiza told CARACOL that the recently signed agreement calls for Colombia to import 10,000 barrels of oil a day from Mexico. Calzada Urquiza said that the agreement is one of the first results of recent talks between Presidents Belisario Betancur and Miguel de la Madria and reflects the importance of Latin American integration. He added that the two countries, together with Brazil, have agreed to develop a gigantic coal production project at El Cerrejon, La Guajira Department, for which the terms and specifications are under study. [Excerpts] [Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 18 Jul 84 PA]

FEBRES CABINET MEMBERS' NAMES ANNOUNCED

PA201800 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 2330 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Frequent meetings and political discussions have been taking place in the last few days to decide on the cabinet of Leon Febres Cordero who assumes the presidency on 10 August. According to reliable sources, most of the designations have been made, with only a few names pending confirmation, since their appointments reportedly depend upon alliances and collaboration from certain parties. The cabinet will reportedly be composed as follows:

Finance: (Francisco Schwalbe)
Industries: (Javier Neira)
Natural Resources: Marcelo Merlo Jaramillo
Foreign Relations: Edgar Teran Teran
Public Works: Sixto Duran Ballen until January 1985, when the Ministry of Housing and Urbanism will be created.
Health: Alberto Duran
Government: Luis Robles Plaza
Agriculture: (Marcel Laniado)
Education: (Maria Eugenia Mosquera de Moran)
Defense: either General Edmundo Vivero or General Luis Pineiros
Information: a new ministry, for which (Patricio Quevedo Teran) has been designated.

Names for the Ministries of Labor and Social Welfare are being selected on the basis of collaboration with the Concentration of Popular Forces [CFP], and are pending confirmation.

BRAZIL'S FIGUEREDO HAILS HURTADO STAND ON DEBT

PA201517 Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] According to Brazilian President Joao Baptista de Oliveira Figueiredo, the letter that has been addressed to the heads of government of the leading industralized countries on the eve of the London summit of the Group of 7 and the EEC will lead the conferees to bear in mind the importance of the foreign debt as a factor that contributes to the serious international crisis, and to realize its impact on the Latin American and Caribbean nations. In a letter to President Hurtado on the subject of the region's economic problem and the efforts to overcome them , the Brazilian president says: I wish to tell you how much I appreciate Your Excellency's active and untiring effort, following the inspired decision to convene the Latin American Economic Conference, to bolster the Latin American countries' position on the foreign debt issue.

BRIEFS

MONETARY RESERVE -- According to Ecuadoran Government statistics, the country's monetary reserve reached a balance of $186 million as of 30 June this year. This figure represents a $45 million, or 32 percent, increase during the month of June, and is due to a significant increase in assets, chiefly in securities and foreign currency deposits. [Summary] [Quito Voz de los Andes in Spanish 1130 GMT 19 Jul 84 PA]

ECONOMY MINISTRY DISCUSSES LOAN, FOREIGN DEBT

PY201750 Lima Domestic Service in Spanish 1115 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Economy, Finance, and Commerce Minister Jose Benavides Munoz has stated that (?he trusts) that Peru will receive the pending $100-million credit from the international banks and that it will be able to meet its obligations as far as the payment of its foreign debt is concerned. Here are his statements:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] We have learned that opposition politicians have stated that it is impossible to repay the foreign debt, Mr Minister.

[Benavides Munoz] Look, to discuss the foreign debt issue, as you say, broadly, is not (?possible). It requires a lot of analysis. Just the foreign debt issue would take a [word indistinct] book. Obviously, as interests grow the debt keeps growing beyond control and there will be a time when it will become untenable. This is something that nobody can deny. However, this is an issue that cannot be discussed lightly. I feel that it requires an in-depth analysis. Of course, the Latin American [words indistinct] is not convenient for the country and interests keep rising. This was the reason for the Cartagena Consensus and this is why the next meeting is to take place in Buenos Aires. [end recording]

ARMED FORCES TAKE OVER ANTISUBVERSIVE STRUGGLE

PY211312 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] As of 20 July the Armed Forces have taken complete control over the planning, execution, and control of the operations against subversion. The police forces which up to now had the largest part of this task will return to their own mission in accordance with their regulations. Form now on only the Armed Forces Joint Command will report on the struggle against subversion. This announcement was made by Interior Minister Percovich at the conclusion of the cabinet meeting today. This is what he said:

[Begin recording] Several legal measures have been approved not only today but in the past few days. The Armed Forces Joint Command is now in charge of carrying out the planning, execution, and control over antisubversive actions. The Armed Forces will decide how and where these plans will be carried out in accordance with an evaluation they are making. What has been definitely established is that the Armed Forces Joint Command is taking over this responsibility as of the time the first level measure was approved, in addition to their involvement in the emergency areas in several provinces of the Departments of Ayacucho, Huancavelica, and Apurimac. From now on the only organization authorized to inform the people on the results of the antisubversive operations will be the Armed Forces Joint Command. [end recording]

SHINING PATH MURDERS PEASANTS, STUDENTS

60 Dead in Sora

PY191444 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0315 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Members of Shining Path have murdered 60 peasants in Sora, south of Ayacucho, and Army troops have moved to Coracora where 3 days ago terrorists carried out actions murdering a policeman and a teacher. We have a report from our correspondent (Mario Cueto Cardonas):

[Begin recording] This is a report from Ayacucho. An Army patrol today left for Coracora, southern Ayacucho Department, in view of reports that columns of Shining Path member were seen in this area. The Political-Military Command ordered the deployment of the Army patrol in order to eliminate the subversives if found.

Police sources in Puquio reported that Sora was attacked by Shining Path members who murdered 60 peasants. However, this report has not yet been confirmed. A patrol is now on the way to that town.

In Ayacucho the police forces are carrying out arrests to neutralize any future attack. The Army continues to control the city by patrolling with small tanks and putting armed personnel in strategic points along the outskirts of the city. [end recording]

In Pisco the police found an important terrorist arsenal which also served as a base for a subversive cell operating in this region. The arsenal was found in the San Clemente neighborhood. The police arrested (Marcial Mamani Rojas), 62 years of age, seizing explosives [words indistinct], fuses, and grenades.

21 Corpses Found

PY211641 Paris AFP inSpanish 2156 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Lima, 20 Jul (AFP) -- Corpses of 21 peasants and students recently murdered by Shining Path have been found and identified by court officials in the Ayacucho emergency zone. Thirteen corpses buried in a common grave were found at the site known as Vega, somewhere between the town of Iribamba and Huallpa, and were removed by orders of provincial court officials. The newspaper EXPRESO has reported that the names of Professor Carlos de la Cruz Sulca and his 5-year-old son were on the list of people murdered. Also 8 corpses showing signs of having been tortured were found yesterday in the district of Quinua, 35 km from Ayacucho. EXPRESO also reported that the youths killed were about 18 years old, and that among them were two women. Last night another terrorist group carried away a crate of dynamite from a construction site in the Miraflores neighborhood of Lima.

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKING FACILITIES DESTROYED -- Lima, 12 Jul (AFP) -- In keeping with its energetic struggle against drug trafficking, the Peruvian Police Forces have dynamited 14 clandestine landing strips built by drug traffickers on the edge of the jungle in La Libertad Department. It has also been disclosed that members of the Civil Guard have destroyed vast plantations of coca with incendiary bombs. [Summary] [Paris AFP in Spanish 2135 GMT 12 Jul 84 PY]

OIL TO BE PURCHASED FROM USSR AT LOWER PRICE

PY201800 Montevideo Radio El Espectador Network in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] We repeat the report that we have already advanced for all the country. Uruguay will buy oil from the Soviet Union at well below the prices it is currently paying.

According to the reports gathered by Radio El Espectador and the Cadena de Ore, reports that originated in Montevideo, which have not yet been confirmed in Moscow by any source of international news agency, this deal is the result of a trip that National Administration of Fuels, Alcohol and Portland Cement ANCAP, President Brigadier General Herbert Pampillo had scheduled beforehand and which he started last week.

In principle, Brig Gen Pampillo had the intention of seeing the dump truck ranging between 30 and 40 tons which have been offered by the Soviet Union to ANCAP in a tender held by the latter in October 1983. Through a Uruguayan enterprise, the USSR also offered excavators in February 1984. When the invitation to watch a demonstration of the operation of the above-mentioned equipment was issued, a possibility was also raised to buy oil from the Soviet Union.

Initial negotiations succeeded and it could be learned that our country will buy 5,000 barrels of oil per day, equivalent to 795,000 liters, at well below the prices we are currently paying. It could also be learned through a source of the Soviet diplomatic mission in Montevideo, which was queried by Radio El Espectador and the Cadena de Oro, that this transaction will not be paid in kind as was the case with Iran, but in currency. It must be recalled that an official mission, led by Foreign Trade Director Jorge Sienra, is now in Tehran watching for developments and no return date has yet been fixed.

For many years Uruguay has been exporting significant quantities of raw wool to the USSR as well as farming products and, in recent years, sizable tonnages of butter.

ASYLUM GRANTED TO BOLIVIANS IN LA PAZ EMBASSY

PY201649 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1451 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Montevideo, 20 Jul (EFE) -- The Uruguayan Government today granted political asylum to three persons who took refuge in the Uruguayan Embassy in La Paz, persons who are presumably involved in the abduction of Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

According to Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Antonio Maeso, prior to the resolution, the government studied the request and a report put together by a special envoy who traveled to La Paz.

The Bolivians who are seeking asylum seem to be three brothers, Carlos Zeballos, Luis Zeballos, and Cesar Zeballos, two of whom are attorneys.

Maeso has recently stated that the delay in the resolution was due to "a lack of true and consistent information from the very outset on the reasons for the asylum request."

Maeso Explains Asylum

PY210207 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2158 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Montevideo, 20 Jul (EFE) -- Uruguayan Foreign Minister Carlos Antonio Maeso has said that by granting political asylum to three Bolivian citizens, Uruguay has remained loyal to its tradition. He also said that according to all the information that has been gathered, it has still not been proven that the Bolivians took part in the abduction of Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo.

The Uruguayan Government today decided to accept the request for asylum almost 3 weeks after it was made. The minister said that asylum was granted "in keeping with Uruguay's traditional and unwavering stance in this regard."

Minister Maeso also said that his country has never turned down a request for asylum because it believes that rather "than a government prerogative, it is a right of the individual who requests it."

When asked whether granting asylum to three persons who allegedly tried to oust the democratic Bolivian regime would not place the de facto government in a delicate position, the foreign minister said:

"In the first place, according to all the information that has been gathered," even by a specialist who was sent to La Pax, "it has still not been proven that these three individuals were involved in the abduction of President Siles Zuazo." Moreover, he asserted, "the evidence shows that the request for asylum is because of political reasons."

The foreign minister went on to say that "I also want to point out that to grant political asylum on no account means passing a political judgment, but rather making a decision to benefit the persons requesting it for humanitarian reasons."

Further on in the press conference Minister Maeso asserted that "should the Bolivian Government consider that these people have committed common crimes or other crimes which do not fall under the right of asylum, it may start proceedings to request their extradition."

In referring to the possible political consequences this decision may have, Maeso asserted that "taking into account Latin American customs, as well as the humanitarian nature of granting asylum, and in keeping with Uruguay's belief that in case of doubt one should favor the person making the request, I believe this decision should not have any political consequences."

The three Bolivians who sought asylum in the Uruguayan Embassy in La Paz are apparently the brothers Luis, Cesar, and Carlos Zeballos, two of them lawyers. At first there was talk that they were involved in the abduction of the Bolivian president and the aborted coup.

MILITARY COURTS RELEASE JOURNALISTS ON BAIL

PY200328 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Three journalists who are being tried by the military courts were released a few hours ago. They are Alexis Jano and Roger Rodriguez, of the weekly LA VOZ DE LAY MAYORIA, which belongs to the labor movement, and Julian Murguia, of LA DEMOCRACIA. They are charged with offending the Armed Forces. They were released on bail, but their trial will continue.

LIBER SEREGNI DECRIES BLANCO PARTY POSITION

PY200201 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] In a recorded message conveyed to rank and file committees, Broad Front leader Liber Seregni has said that the country cannot depend on a single man, because it is the fate of the entire people that is at stake. He added that Blanco Party members have said that they will not take a single step if Wilson Ferreira Aldunate is not released. Seregni then wondered: What about the other 800 political prisoners?

Seregni recalled that Blanco Party members have said that there will be no elections if Aldunate's rights are not restored. He then wondered about the rights of the Broad Front, which remains banned, and remarked that 11,000 Broad Front leaders have been proscribed.

He concluded by saying: The statements by Blanco Party leaders make my blood boil, because they are trying to use all these events to their own advantage.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADOR TO JAPAN -- President Gregorio Alvarez has appointed Aureliano Aguirre new Uruguayan ambassador to Japan. [Summary] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 11 Jul 84 p 5 PY]

NEW COMPTROLLER GENERAL -- Walther Baleta Ordoqui has been appointed comptroller general of the Republic by President Alvarez. Walther Baleta will replace Miguel Angel Loureiro. [Summary] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 13 Jul 84 p 4 PY]

INFLATION RATE INCREASE -- According to the General Directorate of Statistics and Census, the inflation rate during the past 6 months rose 32.56 percent, making the increase 56.20 percent during the past 12 months. [Summary] [Montevideo EL DIA in Spanish 10 Jul 84 p 7 PY]

BILATERAL TRADE AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH PRC

FL201343 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1715 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 19 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- Under Secretary for Economic Affairs of the Mexican Foreign Relations Secretariat Jorge Eduardo Navarrete has stated that Mexico and the People's Republic of China [PRC] have signed an agreement to increase bilateral trade. He said that, with this agreement, trade between the two nations will increase and that, in 1984, goods valued at $50 million have already been exchanged, an amount which exceeds total trade for the year 1983.

Navarrete, who headed the Mexican delegation to the sixth meeting of the joint Mexican-Chinese Commission for Economic Cooperation and Trade, said that an agreement was also signed to facilitate maritime transport of passengers and the shipping of goods. The official also referred to specific industrial, energy, tourist, financial, and livestock and agricultural cooperation projects that will permit the two nations to initiate more flexible bilateral relations.

The PRC delegation was headed by Vice Minister of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade Jia Shi, who had met privately with Foreign Relations Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda Amor. At the end of the meeting, it was reported that in the next 3 years Mexico will sell the PRC 60,000 tons of zinc ingots worth $5.3 million, and 300,000 tons of copper, chemical products, and fertilizers. The PRC will sell Mexico 150,000 tons of rice, from 18,000 to 27,000 tons of paraffin, and from 20,000 to 30,000 tons of lubricating oil, which will strengthen economic cooperation between the two nations.

IPS: BANKS MAY EASE DEBT REPAYMENT TERMS

WA231001 Rome IPS in English 19 Jul 84

[By German Gonzalez Vadillo]

[Text] Mexico City, July 19 (IPS) -- Mexico's international creditors are so impressed with the country's belt-tightening performance since its financial crisis two years ago, there is much talk of easier terms for the giant debtor's new loans. But that will not be enough to solve the country's underlying problems, according to Mexican officials. IMF Executive Director Miguel Senior suggested recently that commercial banks, reflecting the IMF's satisfaction with Mexico's economic performance, may "reward" the government by offering fresh loans at preordained interest rates.

Bur for Mexican Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Navarrete, there is little point in looking at the debt and repayment terms in isolation from the international trade and financial conditions which surround them. Senior pointed out that Mexico is in a "very favorable" position to renegotiate its short-term debts, and his view is borne out by the talks this week in New York between Mexican representatives and a committee of creditor banks. Senior came to Mexico to look over the government's second quarter economic report and, if it meets with the IMF's recommendations, to disburse part of a $4 billion loan. That credit tranche would be somewhere between $1.2 and $2 billion.

Meanwhile, Mexico's debt negotiators in New York, headed by the Treasury Ministry's director of public debt, Jose Gurria, are in close contact with Mexico City to keep abreast of Senior's conclusions. Gurria's counterpart at the talks is Citibank Vice President William Rhodes, who heads the creditor bank committee.

"The talks this week will be exploratory," Gurria said as he left Mexico. "We will carry out a macroeconomic study and then review the projections of the Mexican economy." "They will be very technical meetings in which we do not expect to discuss amounts or repayment terms," he added.

Mexican officials note that the debt talks are a complex process, since after Rhodes' talks with Gurria, he must consult with about 600 banks which have loans out to Mexico. And even if Mexico wins the IMF's blessing, creditors will still be concerned over other factors, such as the massive total of Mexico's foreign debt -- about $90 billion -- and the staggering size of the total Latin American debt.

Meanwhile, there are strong feelings among many bankers -- reflected in a Wall Street Journal editorial this week -- that Mexico should not be given any special treatment, for fear that other Latin American debtors will start demanding it too, regardless of whether they have followed Mexican-style policies. The Mexican Government's main concern, on the other hand, is that interest rates must be brought under control, and that the debt problem be approached with a wider vision. While attention has been focused on the debt as such, argues Navarrete, "it is obvious that any lasting solution requires coping with the problems of trade and financing at the same time."

Protectionism, the continuing decline of international prices for the developing countries' export products and high interest rates in financial markets must be taken together in any study of the debt problem, he added. At present, Mexico has a two-year period to renegotiate debt repayment terms, because the bulk of its capital payments fall due in 1987, according to expert Edgar Salinas. If the debt is not rescheduled, he warns, Mexico will find itself unable to meet its payments once again, and the problem will become a serious political issue, both domestically and internationally.

USSR'S KOSHOYEV VIEWS NICARAGUAN REVOLUTION

PA222355 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2304 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 22 Jul (EFE) -- Temirbek Koshoyev, a high ranking Soviet official, stated here today that there is no force "that can stop Nicaragua's revolutionary, free, and democratic advance."

In remarks to the press, Koshoyev, who is the deputy chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium, added that Nicaragua has international sympathy and support in the struggle to decide its own destiny. Koshoyev arrived in Mexico on the way to the Soviet Union after attending the commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist triumph held in Managua on Thursday. He also said that in the events to commemorate the Sandinist anniversary, he was able to witness the popular support for the Sandinist reconstruction junta led by Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra. Koshoyev reiterated several times that "nothing can stop or get in the way of the Nicaraguans who are on their path to freedom, independence, democracy, and reconstruction." The Soviet official said that he was pleased to be in Mexico, a country, he said, that was one of the first on the Latin American continent to establish diplomatic relations with the USSR.

U.S. SHRIMP BOAT 'EL PATO' CAPTURED, CREW DETAINED

FL211214 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 0310 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 20 Jul (NOTIMEX) -- The Navy Secretariat has reported that the U.S. shrimp boat El Pato was captured today by the Mexican Navy minesweeper "01" while sailing illegally in Mexican waters off the coast of Tampico, State of Tamaulipas. The secretariat stated that the boat had registration number 5130009 from Brownsville, Texas, and according to a statement by Antonio Flores, captain of the pirate boat, had more than 500 kg of shrimp in its holds that had been illegally caught in Mexican territorial waters. The secretariat added that this is the second time that this boat has been seized. It was first captured on 15 September 1983 by Mexican Navy ship Chihuahua. The boat and its seven-man crew were taken to the base at the Port of Tampico, Gulf of Mexico, where they were detained.

SECRETARY OF FISHERIES ON PROJECTS, AID

PA200443 Mexico City EL NACIONAL in Spanish 18 Jul 84 p 3

[Text] The sovereignty of coastal countries over live resources contained within their 200-mile exclusive economic zone is inalienable. It is now a compulsory, international legal norm, said Secretary of Fisheries Pedro Ojeda Paullada. The official analyzed his tour to Europe, where he presided over the World Conference on Order and Development of Fishing. He pointed out that the Mexican delegation's success in that forum was "simply based on having genuinely and immediately implemented the principles supported by more than 130 coastal countries that signed the UN treaty on the Law of the Sea. With this treaty those countries confirmed their sovereignty over live resources within their exclusive economic zone." Ojeda pointed out that Mexico has, in various national and international forums, always demanded the acknowledgment of its sovereign rights over live resources, including its right over highly migratory species such as tuna. He added that this position was adopted and has been in force since 1976. It was confirmed on 10 December 1982 in Montego Bay, Jamaica, when the Law of the Sea was signed by more than 130 countries. The official said that he took advantage of his visit to that continent to meet with his counterparts from Great Britain, France, and Poland during a luncheon-press conference. He added that those countries made proposals for the development of programs for the research and evaluation of fishing resources in our exclusive economic zone. In addition, they also proposed the establishment of joint investment ventures to exploit oceanic species such as tuna, sardines, and also fish scale. These ventures would be aimed at satisfying the domestic market, and surpluses would be used to increase foreign currency reserves. Ojeda reported that he received two specific proposals in Great Britain: One to support Mexican fishing research in its exclusive economic zone and another to establish a joint investment venture between Mexican and British industrialists. This venture would use Mexican ships, processing plants, and personnel. In Poland, talks to formalize an agreement to promote investigation of Mexican fishing resources continued. They were also aimed at establishing joint investment ventures at the governmental level that would involve the operation of factory ships on the high seas. Parastatal Mexican Fishing Products would participate in the venture on behalf of Mexico and would implement guard duty to prevent catches from surpassing specified amounts. As for France, Ojeda received a proposal for a project to establish a tuna processing plant in Manzanillo, Colima. Twenty-eight million dollars (some 5 billion pesos) would be invested, with a capacity to produce 150,000 boxes per year.

PRESIDENT ILLUECA MEETS WITH PRC TRADE MISSION

PA212159 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Panamanian President Jorge Illueca has met in the Palace of the Herons with Jia Shi, PRC vice minister of foreign economic relations and trade, who heads an eight member trade delegation. The PRC delegation is visiting Panama to learn about and obtain firsthand information on the conditions offered by the Colon Free Zone for the establishment of a center for the distribution of Chinese products in Latin America. The Chinese trade delegation, which is on a 48-hour visit to Panama, is scheduled to hold working meetings with trade, industry, and labor authorities, and with directors of the Colon Free Zone. Labor Minister Arturo Melo and Minister of the Presidency Gustavo Gonzalez attended the meeting the delegation held with President Illueca.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON U.S. EMPLOYEES' PRIVILEGES

Illueca Rejects Privileges

PA201558 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] President Jorge Illueca has rejected the position taken by the American members of the Canal Commission, who approved benefits granted to U.S. citizens who work on the interoceanic waterway. The president said:

[Begin Illueca recording] Regrettably, the members of the Commission's Board of Directors are responding to what amounts to a village feeling; they want to preserve an alien community here, a community that is foreign to our culture, which we should assimilate. However, they cannot impose that kind of discrimination upon us. It is contrary to any contemporary principle; it is a prehistoric stance. That victory for labor reflected in the principle that equal work deserves equal pay has been recognized by all countries. This renders the Canal Commission members who voted in favor of that system of privilge the promoters of a feudal viewpoint that has no place in our day and age.

None of those gentlemen could show up in a civilized country or at any international organization to defend what they have done here.

Panama's deeply rooted and unswerving position is that there cannot be a double wage scale. This is a masked double wage scale. We oppose this. We are telling them in a friendly way that this is a fuedal, primitive, and anachronistic stance that renews the causes of conflict. This might lead to regrettable situations among the labor groups that work in the Canal Zone. This kind of situation must stop. We invite the U.S. Government to reflect and to seek solutions. The only solution possible is that either similar privileges are given to the Panamanians, or these privileges are taken away from the Americans. [end recording]

Mandredo on Workers Benefits

PA200251 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Fernando Manfredo, Panama Canal Commission deputy administrator, interviewed by Donadio Carrillo, on 19 July -- recorded]

[Text] [Carrillo] Fernandez Manfredo Jr., deputy administrator of the Panama Canal Commission, today said that there will be no reduction in force despite the increased operating expenses of the Panama Canal as a result of its absorbing the costs of the benefits that the U.S. employees will receive.

Manfredo said that the funds for this were included in the Panama Canal Commission's income and expenses budget. Mandredo noted the benefits that the U.S. employees will receive which were recently approved by the Panama Canal Commission board of directors.

[Manfredo] The benefits are the following: The U.S. employees are currently paying rent for the homes belonging to the Panama Canal Commission, based on prices comparable to the rent paid in other places where the United States has activities outside its continental territory. In this specific case we are using prices comparable to those in Puerto Rico. We charge the U.S. employees on the basis of these prices, which of course are lower than the homes' repair and maintenance costs. It is a sort of subsidized rent.

Those who will lose commissary and postal privileges will not pay rent. Their rent will be totally subsidized. At this time the U.S. employees also pay a tariff for electricity used in their homes, also based upon a comparable price -- that of the Tennessee Valley -- to determine how much they will pay. This is also lower than the real costs generated, so their electricity is subsidized. The employees who will not pay rent will also be relieved of electricity payments.

The U.S. employees here have the right to travel to the United States once every 2 years to visit their homes. This is called home leave travel. Those employees who have this benefit will now be able to travel every year at the Commission's expense. The children of U.S. employees studying in the United States, up to the age of 23, currently have the right to come home at Commission expense once a year. With the new benefits they will be able to return twice yearly.

The employees on the Atlantic side will have additional compensation for transportation expenses, which they do not receive at this time. This is more or less the compensation package for U.S. employees who will lose purchasing power as a result of changing from an economy of subsidized prices -- that of the military commissaries and postal services -- to the Panamanian economy.

[Carrillo] Are these benefits or privileges included in the Torrijos-Carter treaties?

[Manfredo] They are not explicitly stated. The Panama Canal Treaties do not explicitly state that when commissary and postal service privileges are lost we have to compensate employees for a loss of purchasing power. This could perhaps be found somewhat implicitly within the pertinent dispositions in the treaty. It really is explicit in Law 9670, which states that the Panama Canal Commissiom must pay a cost of living adjustment to employees who lose privileges, to the U.S. employees who lose their privileges.

NMU on Compensation

PA200359 Panama City Televisora Nacional in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The National Maritime Union, NMU, which groups 5,000 workers in the Canal area -- some 3,000 of whom work for the Panama Canal Commission -- today protested the privileges that the board of directors of the Panama Canal Commission approved for U.S. employees last week.

Rene Lioeanjie, vice president of the NMU, described the decision as discriminatory, because there are Panamanians who resided in the former Canal Zone who lost their privileges in 1979, and who should also be compensated.

Lioeanjie, speaking in English, said that the NMU is conducting surveys to determine how much the loss of privileges has cost these Panamanians, so that this union can present the figures to the Canal Commission administrator and wherever necessary demand justice for the people who lost their privileges. Lioeanjie said that the NMU will not stop until it has achieved justice for the Panamanian workers in the Canal Area, because they also have a right to compensation. After all, the vice president of the NMU said, the Panamanians are the ones who receive the smallest salaries as employees of the Canal Commission. Therefore they, more than anyone else, need adjustments. This is the NMU position, Mr Lioeanjie said. Asked about the consequences of the measure adopted by the board of directors of the Panama Canal Commission, Lioeanjie said that the workers' morale is low and that he has received many calls protesting the measure. We have told the workers, he said, that we will continue struggling to achieve equality in salaries and benefits in the Canal Area.

To conclude, responding to statements regarding the NMU being a union run by U.S. citizens, Lioeanjie answered that Commission employees are federal employees. They have all the rights as workers, just as the U.S. employees do. We are also a U.S. union, and the Panamanians who are members of the NMU have the same rights as any other U.S. employee in the United States or any part of the world. Therefore, Lioeanjie said, nationality, color, race, religion, or any other difference does not play a role in this union. Our role is to struggle for equality of benefits for the workers, he concluded.

NORIEGA DISCUSSES JUNGLE OPERATION, SMUGGLING

PA201248 Panama City Circuito RPC Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jul 84

[General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, interviewed by an unidentified reporter; date and place not given]

[Text] General Manuel Antonio Noriega, commander in chief of the Panama Defense Forces, was blunt in stating that he has no knowledge about the possibility that well-known guerrilla leader Hugo Spadafora is currently fighting in the Darien jungle at the head of a Panamanian-staffed guerrilla cell.

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Is the Defense Forces' operation in Darien still under way?

[Noriega] The unit is still in the area as a precautionary measure.

[Reporter] Does that mean that outbreaks of violence continue in Darien?
[Noriega] There never has been violence in the area of Darien itself; there has not been any violence in any part of Panamanian territory.

[Reporter] How are the relations between the Panamanian Defense Forces and the Colombian Armed Forces in connection with the area of Darien?
[Noriega] Fine. There is no problem. Our forces are well coordinated. [end recording]

General Noriega said that 15 people without proper documentation were turned over to Colombian authorities, while confirming that they were not guerrillas, as the media had reported. He went on to answer other questions.

[Begin recording] [Reporter] Are there plans to dismiss, retire, or promote anyone in the near future?
[Noriega] The institution has a schedule of promotions.
[Reporter] Does that mean that there will be promotions?
[Noriega] In due time.
[Reporter] Is any other member of the military involved in drug smuggling?
[Noriega] No, fortunately. [end recording]

CONTADORA DEPUTY MINISTERS TO BEGIN REGIONAL TOUR

PA211748 Paris AFP in Spanish 1350 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Mexico City, 21 Jul (AFP) -- The Contadora Group's deputy foreign ministers will begin a tour of the region's countries on Monday in order to learn the views of the region's governments on the proposal for peace and cooperation in Central America that was recently submitted to their consideration. This announcement was published by the newspaper EXCELSIOR, citing Mexican Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Valero, who added that, after the tour, the Contadora technical group will meet with the deputy foreign ministers to prepare for the seventh joint meeting of Central America and Contadora Group foreign ministers.

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ VIEWS CONTADORA, REGIONAL SITUATION

PA211308 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Passages within quotation marks are recorded]

[Text] In an interview held in the corridors of the National Palace, Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that one of the subjects that he will discuss with the Guatemalan Government is the upcoming meeting between Central American and EEC foreign ministers:

[Gutierrez, in progress] ..."the Costa Rican and Guatemalan positions on the future of Contadora, and the meeting between Central American and EEC foreign ministers that will be held in September.

[Unidentified reporter] "According to reports received in Guatemala, you have said that some things are missing from the Contadora documents. What can you say about this?

[Gutierrez] "Well, for example, the Contadora document contains both obligations and recommendations. Some points are outlined as recommendations, when, in our opinion, they should be clearly stated as obligations. An example of this is the process of democratization. In other words, the commitment by all Central American countries to hold pluralistic elections, in which all of the various political ideologies may participate, is one of Contadora's objectives. However, in the Contadora document this is phrased only as a recommendation. We think that this should be more than a mere recommendation, and that there should be a clear commitment by all of the Central American countries on the issue."

Foreign Minister Gutierrez noted that he will meet with various Guatemalan political leaders tomorrow to learn about the country's situation:

"Well, I would like to meet with political party leaders, not to discuss any particular subject but to learn about their opinions on the situation in Guatemala. As for this situation, I can only say that, in my opinion, the recent elections reflect true Guatemalan leadership. I am simply curious to know what they think, what their points of view are, in order to have a feeling for what Guatemala's political future might be. My intention is not to discuss any particular subject with them, but only to listen to their viewpoints. I will hold a series of meetings tomorrow with the leaders of the political parties that received the majority of votes in the elections for Constituent Assembly elections. However, this is only for informational purposes."

Commenting on Nicaragua's policy, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said that some aspects of pluralism must be implemented in that country if the elections there are to be truly democratic:

"We have noticed that certain conditions are necessary if Nicaragua's elections are to be truly pluralistic. First of all, we believe that the state of emergency should be lifted. Secondly, we think that all of the political parties should have an equal opportunity to employ the right to assemble and the right to campaign. In addition, all of the political parties should be absolutely free either to agree with or to criticize the government. All of these things are lacking in the Nicaraguan electoral process. They may or may not develop. As long as all of the rules of the game are not clearly understood, and as long as the opportunities provided to the opposition parties are not fully guaranteed, we have cause for doubt. We cannot categorically say that the elections will not be democratic, but we have a very clear idea of what democratic elections entail."

The Costa Rican foreign minister also said that Costa Rica [words indistinct]:

[Reporter] "[Words indistinct] Costa Rica's problem with Salvadoran and Nicaraguan refugees?

[Gutierrez] "We have a very serious problem with refugees. We are trying to attend to their needs with aid from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, UNHCR, but we are deeply concerned about the growing number of refugees, particularly Nicaraguan refugees, who are arriving in Costa Rica.

[Reporter] "[Words indistinct] Nicaraguan refugees?

[Gutierrez] "Well, the total of what I consider official refugees is about 20,000. These are the refugees who receive assistance from the UNHCR. But we must add three times more [words indistinct] some 60,000 to 80,000 Nicaraguans who have fled their country and are not considered refugees, but who nevertheless take part in the Costa Rican job market.

[Reporter] "That is very worrisome, Mr Minister."

Further Report

PA221850 San Jose Radio Impacto in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez will return home today after a 48-hour visit to Guatemala, where he met with General Oscar Mejia Victores, Guatemala's head of state; Guatemalan Foreign Minister Fernando Andrade; and representatives of the leading political parties.

At a press conference yesterday, Gutierrez said that unfortunately, the conclusion of a peace treaty for Central America is not near. However, he added that there is still hope, and that as long as there is hope we must continue to work.

Asked if the qualified acceptance of the Contadora document by the region's governments could mean that a peace treaty for Central America will be signed soon, Gutierrez said no. Right now, he added, it is not enough to say that we support the Contadora document; the point now is who will and who will not comply with the Document of Objectives.

ARDE'S CHAMORRO TO BE EXPELLED IF FOUND

PA222214 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1330 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Public Security Ministry sources have reported that Fernando, alias Negro, Chamorro is wanted in Costa Rica. He is believed to be in Costa Rica because the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] recently issued two communiques in San Jose in which it officially announced that Chamorro is its new military chief. The authorities are searching intensely for Chamorro, because there is a tacit order from the government to keep him out of Costa Rica since he has been expelled from our territory on two occasions. He will be immediately expelled to another country if he is found here.

EL SALVADOR

D. ORTEGA STATEMENT ON GUERRILLA SUPPORT PROTESTED

PA210428 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0320 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] San Salvador, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The Salvadoran Government has forwarded a protest note to the Nicaraguan Government in connection with a recent statement by Nicaraguan junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega to the effect that his government will continue to support the Salvadoran guerrillas, the Salvadoran Foreign Ministry reported today. Last Friday Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte -- who was then visiting the FRG -- instructed his government not to send an official delegation to the events commemorating the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution because of the statement Ortega made in an FRG interview several days prior to President Duarte's arrival.

The Salvadoran Foreign Ministry's note is addressed to Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto. It expresses the government's "most energetic protest" over Ortega's statement, "which publicly admits and reiterates unconditional support for the FMLN-FDR guerrillas." "Your Excellency is aware that the Salvadoran people have been suffering from an armed aggression financed, directed, and guided by a power on another continent for several years now," the protest note says. It states that this is accomplished "through middlemen such as Cuba and Nicaragua, who provide political, logistical, and financial support for the groups seeking to establish a totalitarian dictatorship in El Salvador, using terrorism and every imaginable sort of violence." The Foreign Ministry note adds that "Nicaragua's interventionist policy -- this time voiced by one of its ranking leaders -- has made Nicaragua a troublespot in the region and an element of regional destabilization."

"El Salvador and other countries of the area are compelled to protest that policy, which is a cause for concern to the continent's democratic nations and to the entire international community," the note continues. "Therefore," it adds, "it is my duty to report to Your Excellency that the constitutional government headed by Jose Napoleon Duarte, heeding the Salvadoran people's sovereign decision, demands that the Nicaraguan Government respect El Salvador's sovereignty."

The Salvadoran Government also demands that Nicaragua "immediately stop intervening in El Salvador's domestic affairs and respect the self-determination of Salvadorans, who seek peace and justice in democracy."

The protest note is signed by Salvadoran Deputy Foreign Minister Ricardo Acevedo Peralta, who is in charge of that ministry during the absence of Foreign Minister Jorge Eduardo Tenorio, who is accompanying President Duarte on his tour through various European countries.

ASSEMBLY EXTENDS STATE OF SIEGE FOR 30 DAYS

PA220049 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 20 Jul 84 pp 2, 46

[Text] During its plenary session yesterday, the Salvadoran Legislative Assembly extended the suspension of constitutional rights for an additional 30 days. This suspension has been in force since 15 October 1979 through successive extensions. Nationalist Republican Alliance, ARENA, Deputy General Enrique Aguirre asked that normal procedures be dispensed with regarding a communication sent by the ministers' council. He expressed his approval of the extension of the constitutional rights suspension because the increase in violence by terrorist organizations. ARENA Deputy Felix Canizales asked that the decree be examined to fit it into the current situation, because in its present form it is not suitable to combat violence. He requested permission to talk to defense authorities to try to find ways to combat subversion. In addition, Deputy Carmen Velasco, of the Salvadoran Authentic Institutional Party, PAISA, said that the violence seems more serious. She indicated that some aspects of the state of siege are not being fulfilled. The legal mechanisms do not work. She also said that it is the deputies and the president, through the ministers, who have the authority to legislate but not the ministers' council. Democratic Action Party Deputy Luis Nelson Segovia said that the violence prevailing in the country justifies the extension of the constitutional rights suspension. The extension of the state of siege was approved through a roll call vote in two rounds by a majority of 57 votes out of a total of 60.

VIDES URGES PEOPLE'S SUPPORT AGAINST GUERRILLAS

PA222322 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1926 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- Salvadoran Defense Minister General Carlos Eugenio Vides Casanova has asked all citizens to participate in the struggle against the guerrillas supported by Cuba and Nicaragua. In a message to the nation carried last night by several television channels, Vides Casanova said that the fighting in the country concerns everyone "and we must all actively participate to shorten the distance that will lead us to peace."

He also discussed a maximum rationing of fuels to prevent importation, which uses up funds and affects deposits.

"The Castro-Sandinist subversion has unleashed an all-out, indiscrimate attack on our country. No one is safe from its terrorist activities and therefore the reply has to be of the same kind," Vides Casanova said. "Everyone should participate in the struggle because we all have much to gain from it. Therefore, we must make the people aware of this," Vides Casanova added.

He explained that there are many ways in which the people can seek a solution to this struggle, for example, "by reporting violations of human rights committed by local and foreign terrorists to humanitarian and foreign organizations. Besides, he added, citizens can talk to their friends about the country's reality to counteract misinformation and donate a day's wage to alleviate the situation of those disabled and wounded in the war.

Colonel Reynaldo Lopez Nuila, deputy defense and public security minister, recently suggested the creation of citizens defense committees in each neighborhood in case of a national emergency. Lopez Nuila said that President Jose Napoleon Duarte recently approved a bill to create these civilian brigades, but the government does not consider them necessary at the moment.

SECURITY MINISTER ON CIVIL DEFENSE BRIGADES

PA220328 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 20 Jul 84 pp 3, 44

[Excerpt] Citizens' defense brigades might begin operating in case of an emergency -- something akin to civil defense patrols, only better organized and under Defense Ministry control, Colonel Carlos Reinaldo Lopez Nuila, deputy defense and public security minister, told EL DIARIO DE HOY. The official was questioned because "new offensives" by some terrorists who operate in the national territory have been mentioned recently.

Col Lopez said: "I have a personal opinion. I believe the citizens' defense groups can work; in fact, they have worked in many other countries, only with a different technique and organization. I believe these groups must be formed by local residents who will defend their neighborhood or village. These residents will be prepared to act in defense at a given moment, taking into consideration that it is their heritage that is at stake."

He added: "The same can be said of a business concern's workers who might organize themselves to defend their enterprise from those trying to destroy it. Of course, all of this would have to be implemented through a definite program to avoid a repetition of what has been observed at some locations where persons foreign to the locality, and even criminals, have been contracted, thereby causing difficulties for the authorities and for the residents themselves." The newsmen asked the official if these groups or brigades can begin operating immediately, but the answer was negative.

The official then added: "This has been contemplated in a bill approved by both the president, as the Armed Forces commander in chief, and the defense minister. These groups might begin operating when they are necessary, but we do not think they are necessary for the time being and hope they will not become necessary. We have faith in what the Armed Forces can do for the defense of the communities."

ARMY LAUNCHES NEW COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS

PA211802 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The Salvadoran Army has launched new counterinsurgency operations in eastern, central, and northern El Salvador, in an effort to thwart the guerrillas' plans to launch new offensives in the next few months, military authorities have reported. Recent warnings by U.S. authorities that the Salvadoran rebels may be preparing a new large-scale offensive for the last 3 months of 1984 have prompted the Army to take precautions. The operations are focusing in areas such as northern San Miguel and Morazan Departments; portions of San Vicente, Cabanas, southern Usulutan, and Chalatenango Departments; the central region, covering a portion of Cuscatlan Department in which several municipalities are under guerrilla control; and areas east of Guazapa Hill, such as Tenancingo, San Jose Guayabal, and Oratorio de Concepcion. Tenancingo, for instance, is a ghost town that has virtually disappeared from the map; its residents have not returned to it even though it is no more than 40 km from San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador. The rapid deployment Ramon Belloso and Atlacatl Battalions are participating in this new military operation, with Air Force support.

Following the guerrilla attack on the important Cerron Grande Dam, the Army has concentrated its forces in a wide area covering both the Cerron Grande and the 5 November Dams, which are located in the area of Cabanas, Cuscatlan, and Chalatenango Departments.

According to reports, this area has been heavily bombed in efforts by the Air Force to weaken the rebels' positions by attacking their strongholds, thus paving the way for the special troops. There have been no immediate reports of heavy fighting in the area. (?It is believed) that the guerrillas have withdrawn to the San Vicente volcano, particularly to its southern side, and to a mountain range known as Cerros de San Pedro, in San Vicente Department. In addition to preventing future FMLN actions, the Army operations seek to protect the country's main export and basic grain crops, which are of vital importance to the generation of foreign exchange and to the maintenance of domestic supplies, military sources explained. Meanwhile, the guerrillas have not announced any new special operation following their sabotage drive against the transportation system last week, which, according to the clandestine radio, resulted in economic losses of some $2.4 million.

SIX SOLDIERS KILLED IN AMBUSH IN USULUTAN

PA220343 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Report by Raul Beltran]

[Text] After almost 5 hours of fighting yesterday in Usulutan Department, six soldiers, including a 2d lieutenant, and four rebels were killed in intense battles in the villages of Joya Ancha Arriba, Joya Ancha Abajo, and Arenales, north of Santa Elena. According to military reports, leftists ambushed an Army patrol that was later reinforeced by other units that left the 6th Brigade, headquartered in Usulutan. The heavy fighting that resulted in the above casualties then began.

FARABUNDO MARTI ON DIALOGUE PROPOSAL, DUARTE TOUR

Objectives of Tour Viewed

PA210304 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Well, it is 20 July 1984, less than 2 months since Jose Napoleon Duarte was imposed as leader of the executive branch. He is now facing generalized popular discontent and significant international discredit. Duarte is seeking economic and political aid for a regime that is seen in El Salvador as an instrument of U.S. warmongering interests that aim at keeping a hard-working people demanding respect for their legitimate rights submerged in misery, unemployment, and hunger. Jose Napoleon Duarte's [European] tour seeks support for a regime entangled in its own internal contradictions with sectors of the oligarchy; a regime that has no autonomy; a regime that has no genuine power. What kind of decisionmaking power does a regime have when it is the Legislative Assembly that dictates to the executive branch? What kind of power does Duarte's regime have when the exploiters gathered in the sinister National Association of Private Enterprise and the oligarchy parties force him to reverse his foreign policy decisions at their whim, as in the case of the delegation which was to have participated in the commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution?

Duarte has not achieved his tour's objective. He has not gained the support of all of Europe. Only the current FRG Government, the ally of warmongering Ronald Reagan, has given him several million dollars, which will be consumed by corrups top officers of the puppet Army. Duarte will not decide whether talks will be held with representative forces of the Salvadoran people. Duarte is only a mouthpiece, a marionette, a cheap and corrupt puppet to politically mask U.S. military plans.

The FMLN and the FDR continue voicing their determination to hold talks and seek a solution to war in El Salvador, as we recently reiterated in Colombia and Europe. We have clearly requested a just political solution to establish the bases for the progress, welfare, and freedom of the Salvadoran people.

Duarte's Position Assessed

PA221825 (Clandestine) Radio Farabundo Marti in Spanish to El Salvador 0100 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] There can be no doubt that the support received by the FMLN's political position because of its willingness to hold talks and to negotiate without prerequisites on resolving the Salvadoran conflict has forced Ronald Reagan to move his Salvadoran puppet, Jose Napoleon Duarte, to Europe. Duarte has had to present himself as a pacifist and a democrat before the European governments, and is thus lying. He has said: My current duty is to create an atmosphere of security in the country, so that the guerrillas may come down from the mountains to negotiate without fear.

Both the European countries and our people know very well that we made a proposal for dialogue in October 1982, which we reaffirmed at the end of 1983. Moreover, we demanded that these talks be held in San Salvador, before the eyes of our people. It is clear, then, that the guerrillas have never been afraid to leave the mountains for talks. Duarte's words have only one purpose: to acquire more dollars, deadly dollars about which the U.S. Congress is giving Ronald Reagan a hard time.

Today, at the end of his European tour, Jose Napoleon Duarte will report to his chief, Ronald Reagan. Reagan will have to tell him whether or not he gets the dollars he needs to intensify his war of extermination against our people.

Nonetheless, Jose Napoleon Duarte's servile attitude has even darker intentions: He seeks U.S. intervention on Salvadoran soil. Duarte will talk with Ronald Reagan about the urgent need for intervention by U.S. troops, because the puppet Army can no longer stand the pace of the fighting imposed by the FMLN. In the past few days, particularly after the effective military blow the government troops suffered at the Cerron Grande Dam and the seriously erosive attacks in the east, the highest and deadliest leaders from the U.S. Defense Department have arrived in our country. First came Fred Ikle, under secretary of defense; Nestor Sanchez, deputy assistant secretary of defense for Latin American affairs; and **Fredrick Woerner, Latin American security assistant.** These are three of the high-level bosses who arrived in El Salvador this week. Last week, General Vessey, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and General Paul Gorman, commander in chief of the U.S. Southern Command, also arrived in our country, for a worried assessment of the rapid erosion affecting the puppet Army.

Duarte's democratic facade is fading away. In the same way, his illusion that he can win the war against the Salvadoran people is slipping out of his hands. Duarte is desperate. His only chance now is to give away our fatherland, to be trampled on by the imperialist jackboot.

For its part, the FMLN, acting with increasing strength and determination, is seeking the only solution to the crisis: the creation of a broad-based government that will take the necessary steps to end the steadily increasing hunger and injustice. With the same growing strength and determination, the FMLN is preparing its popular army, composed of workers and peasants, along with the rest of the Salvadoran people, to confront and defeat the imperialist intervention. Thus, we say: There will be only more hunger and repression, and no solution, with Duarte; however, with the FMLN, there will be a broad-based government.

VENCEREMOS WARNS AGRICULTURAL PLANE OWNERS, PILOTS

PA220410 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Attention, much attention. We warn owners and pilots of agricultural airplanes used on cotton plantations that these planes should stop operating. Our members have been instructed to open fire against these planes. We repeat: We warn owners and pilots of agricultural airplanes used on cotton plantations that these planes should stop operating. Our members have been instructed to open fire against these planes. Some days ago, we announced our orders not to plant cotton. This order is to be strictly abided by. Our revolutionary combatants will sabotage cotton plantations regardless of the cotton's developmental stage. For this reason, agricultural planes' owners and pilots must refrain from flying over cotton plantations. We have already appealed to farmers cooperaties to devote themselves to cultivating grains for the population's domestic consumption. Cotton brings revenues to the dictatorship so that it can maintain its Army, make war against the people, bomb rural areas, and continue genocide.

VENCEREMOS REPORTS ON ARMY-GUERRILLA FIGHTING

Clash in Agua Zarca

PA200344 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] This is a military report from Morazan Department indicating that on Wednesday, 18 July, FMLN units clashed with enemy forces in Agua Zarca, Ocicala Municipality. An enemy soldier was seriously wounded in this clash. Our revolutionary army continues dealing blow after blow to the battered troops financed by Ronald Reagan and directed by U.S. advisers. In 18 days in July we have inflicted approximately 250 casualties on the enemy in various types of actions: ambushes, controlling roads, occupying enemy positions, and other operations in which the Salvadoran people are reaffirming their freedom call with heroism and determination.

Battalion Command Post Attacked

PA210218 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Commands of the Mario Armijo special forces and units of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade at 0245 today slipped past Atonal Battalion security forces and took positions a few meters from the command post. From there they launched a bazooka and dynamite attack on the post one of the explosive charges went off in the officer's dormitory area. Our commands straffed the command post inflicting many casualties on the Atonal forces, including officers. A contingent of 160 troops was defending this enemy position, located in Hacienda El Congo, in El Transito jurisdiction. Our commands withdrew without any problems.

Our military campaign "Long Live the Heroic Workers' Struggle -- Defeat Duarte's Capitulation" continues to score victories.

Also on 20 July, units of the Rafael Arce Zablah Brigade began an attack on the 1st Cazadores Battalion of Usulutan at 0100 in La Pena and Arenales, in Chinameca jurisdiction. By 0600 the enemy had already sustained many casualties. The battalion abandoned its positions and fled in disarray. Initial reports indicate that the FMLN inflicted 22 casualties on the Arce Battalion, which was trained by the gringos in Honduras. The casualty list is as follows: 7 dead, including 2 officers and 1 corporal, and more than 15 wounded. including 1 sergeant.

Attention, this is the list of weapons recovered: 5 M-16 rifles, 1 M-79 grenade launcher with 10 grenades, and 1 PRC-77 military radio. Our forces also recovered 10,000 cartridges of ammunition, 15 packs, and abundant military supplies.

Part of the Arce Battalion, which was revamped in Honduras by the gringos, fled in wild disarray. Our report indicates that most of the casualties were sustained by the battalion's Recondo Unit. This unit specializes in military reconnaissance and was included in the elite troops trained by the gringos in Honduras. The Arce Battalion has been totally demoralized by the sharp blows of our people in arms. The report adds that in their wild race through the fields the tin soldiers of the ill-named Arce Battalion looked like rabbits on the run.

Claims Over 280 Casualties

PA212140 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Long live the workers' struggle; let us defeat Duarte's capitulation! We are everywhere; we are wearing out the enemy's forces on the coastal highway and in the area of Chinameca, El Transito, and Cuscatlan. We are snatching the rifles sent by Ronald Reagan! During the first 20 days of July, we have inflicted more than 280 casualties, including dead and wounded, on the dictatorship's forces. We have inflicted these casualties on the troops which were inspected some days ago by the U.S. Army's chief of staff himself. He has seen how the puppet Army's structure is falling apart little by little and piece by piece. The puppet Army is at the service of the rich oligarchs.

The downtrodden, the poor; the eternally barefoot people are now taking the initiative and advancing toward power!

HONDURAS

GOVERNMENT DENIES NICARAGUAN INVASION CHARGES

PA201706 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1542 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Tegucigalpa, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The Honduran Government today denied that in the coming weeks there will be an invasion of Nicaragua from Honduran territory by three anti-Sandinist rebel groups. Sandinist authorities charged during the ceremony commemorating the fifth anniversary of the revolution that combined ARDE, FDN, and MISURA forces were preparing an invasion from Honduras, to be called the "Black Moon Operation." "The fact that spokesmen for that regime of force have launched this new calumny against Honduras simply demonstrates the Sandinists' paranoia," the official communique stated.

Nevertheless, at the beginning of the week Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica reported that an FDN installation in Lepaterique, a township near Teguciagalpa toward the southeast, had been dismantled. In addition, the newspaper TIEMPO published photographs of a safehouse for the same rebel organization near several Army combat battalions in southern Tegucigalpa.

The newspaper report was neither confirmed nor denied by official sources, while FDN spokesmen admitted that they also had radio communications and logistical and health support facilities, which were relocated because of Army pressure. Paz Barnica, admitting for the first time in the 2 years of his administration that Nicaraguan rebels were present in Hondura, stated: "We will not allow any foreigner to violate our laws."

Press Communique

PA211948 Tegucigalpa LA TRIBUNA in Spanish 20 Jul 84 p 60

[International Information Directorate press communique issued in Tegucigalpa on 19 July]

[Text] As the result of a new concoction by the Nicaraguan regime, which has alleged that a combined invasion by three anti-Sandinist forces will attack positions in that country while using Honduras as their base of operations, the Honduran Government declares:

1. It is absolutely false that insurgent forces belonging to the Miskito, Sumus, Ramas, [MISURA], the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE], and the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [EDN], have sanctuaries or operational centers in our country. The entire world is aware that the Nicaraguan combatants who are fighting against the Managua regime are in Nicaraguan territory, and that their attacks are being staged at locations near Managua.

2. The fact that spokesmen for that regime have launched this new calumny against Honduras, at a time when a high-level delegation from our country is visiting Managua to accompany its authorities in commemorating the anniversary of their revolution, simply demonstrates the Sandinists' paranoia. The Nicaraguan military leaders' unwarranted hostility and their rejection of efforts to improve relations could not be more obvious.

3. No one believes the legends and myths that spokesmen for the Marxist Nicaraguan Government attribute to the CIA, since it is evident that its own people have rebelled, demanding the free elections and democratic government that were promised at the OAS 5 years ago and that the government refuses to provide.

Despite this constant campaign of propaganda attacks, Honduras will continue its serene and firm support for the peacekeeping efforts of the Contadora Group, in the certainty that it will be the path by which civilized coexistence in our region may be secured, and will continue to advocate the implementation of justice and development, within the framework of freedom.

PAZ BARNICA DISCUSSES MEETING WITH IKLE

PA211735 Tegucigalpa Voz de Honduras Network in Spanish 1145 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Milton Mateo report]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica has reported on the in-depth discussions held yesterday during a meeting held by President Roberto Suarzo Cordova; General Walter Lopez Reyes, Armed Forces commander; Colonel Efrain Lisandro Gonzalez, chief of the Armed Forces Joint General Staff; the presidency secretary; and the foreign secretary himself with Fred Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense, who deals with Latin American affairs related to foreign policy. The foreign secretary had this to say about the meeting:

[Begin Paz Barnica recording] It was important, because President Suazo Cordova made a very broad and extremely candid statement of our expectations on various aspects related to cooperation and various issues between Honduras and the United States. Also, as stated by Mr Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense at the Pentagon, common views were specified and reviewed within the framework of bilateral relations. The current international situation and the Central American crisis were also assessed.

In addition, it was made abundantly clear that, as President Suazo Cordova has declared, the review and analysis of the two countries' relations, of the two nations' existing cooperation, and of their agreements is being undertaken within the framework of the sovereignty that attaches to every state, but for purposes of cooperation and understanding and not of confrontation, as befits friendly countries that uphold the same ideals.

We examined fundamental matters, such as economic cooperation, with the understanding that it is fundamentally necessary to take preventive measures to keep the violence in other Central American countries from breaking out in Honduras and that these measures must be geared toward improving the living conditions of the Honduran people, and solving the problems of unemployment, health, education, housing, agrarian reform, etc. This requires defense mechanisms, within the framework of cooperation and within the guidelines on which the principles of international law are based. [Words indistinct] measure between the United States and Nicaragua and the peace efforts of the Contadora Group [words indistinct]. [end recording]

The foreign secretary said that the Honduran people will be told about the progress made in the negotiations and talks between the United States and Honduran commissions to improve and modify bilateral treaties:

[Begin Paz Barnica recording] There is a total understanding and total confidence between the military and civilians that the common denominator in strengthening the Honduran democratic system, one of the greatest achievements there has been in Central America in recent decades, has been the free elections that established a democratic government in Honduras -- the current constitutional government led by Dr Roberto Suazo Cordova. That government must be strengthened through international cooperation and through our own efforts to adopt measures that can provide social and economic well-being for the Honduran people without neglecting the defense systems that are so necesary in a crisis.

Meanwhile, the high-level commission that participated in this meeting and that was created by president of the Republic to outline Honduran policy on relations with the United States is already working on this policy, which will include various aspects of cooperation that are not exclusively military, such as economic cooperation, security, social issues, cultural aspects, etc.

We need to adjust our relations to current needs through means of ensuring reciprocal understanding, mutual understanding, respect and dignity, for the benefit of both Honduras and the United States. [end recording]

Mr Foreign Secretary: How have Honduran-Nicaraguan relations been over the past few weeks?

[Begin Paz Barnica recording] In the past few weeks, in the past few months, a climate of regional detente has been created and promoted, not only between Honduras and Nicaragua but at the regional level as well. This is fundamental, because it offers a favorable occasion for responsible, multilateral peace negotiations to be held within the context of the Contadora Group. Honduras sent a delegation to the ceremony marking the fifth anniversary of the triumph of the Sandinist revolution, within the framework of the two countries' existing diplomatic relations. The delegation is led by Roberto Galvez Barnes, in his capacity as special ambassador for Central America and the Caribbean. According to reports I received today, the Honduran delegation will hold talks with Commander Humberto Ortega Saavedra, that country's defense minister. [end recording]

PRESIDENT ON TENURE, REVIEW OF U.S. TREATIES

PA201755 Tegucigalpa Domestic Service in Spanish 1130 GMT 20 Jul 84

[President Roberto Suazo Cordova's press conference on 19 July; place not given, reporters not identified -- recorded]

[Excerpts] [Question] Some deputies have already voiced their opinion on the possibility that you will continue as president for 2 more years. These deputies feel that you have done excellent work for all Hondurans. What is your opinion?

[Suazo Cordova] Only history may judge me. I want to thank Daniel Quezada, my good friend Antonio Ordon, and Gustavo Timon for their remarks and their wish that I continue in office. This once again shows that we have a regime that is fully democratic, where everyone has the right to speak. The times of the past, when leaders remained leaders through the use of bayonets, are gone. At present, the president of the Republic; Brigade General Walter Lopez Reyes, commander of the Armed Forces; Colonel Efrain Gonzalez, chief of the Joint General Staff; Colonel [Francisco] Zepeda, Air Force commander; Colonel [Guillermo] Thuman, Army commander; Colonel Roberto Martinez Avila, commander of the Public Security Forces; Colonel Humberto Regalado Hernandez, Navy commander; and the other commanders, officers, NCO's and soldiers in our Armed Forces have already given their word that they will fully guarantee the elections that are to be held on the last Sunday of November 1985. So, I believe that the fantasizing by radio and newspaper journalists who are talking about this everyday must stop. I have already told them that I will not remain the president a single day past my term.

[Question] How secret and how long will the serious talks with the U.S. Government on changing the military treaties be?

[Suazo Cordova] Well, on Friday [words indistinct] will continue this. I appointed a commission comprising Gen Lopez, Presidency Secretary Carlos Flores, Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica, and Col Gonzalez. I asked them to meet with me at 1000 or 1030 today, because at 1100 I will meet with a Pentagon envoy who will be paying a courtesy call.

I feel that we have continued our steps in this direction. The only ones who are excited about this in Honduras are the commies [nangaritas]. They are happy, for they want to see us get into a (?fight) with the U.S. Armed Forces. They are the same people who said in Honduras several years ago that we needed revolutionary commanders, like those in Nicaragua, to straighten out this country. These are the people who are now praising the commanders and officers of the Honduran Armed Forces.

[Question] Do you have a message for the Honduran people?

[Suazo Cordova] I want to stress my affection and respect for all Hondurans. As I have always done, I urge all members of the National Party of Honduras, the Innovation and Unity Party, and the Christian Democratic Party to register at the National Registry Office. This message is also for my loyal Liberal Party comrades and friends, who must register so that the red and white banner of the glorious Liberal Party can wave victoriously. No one can criticize me, because I am also exhorting the other political parties to do the same.

D. ORTEGA ON U.S. POLICY, DEFENSE, OTHER ISSUES

PA210038 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1757 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto, and Supreme Electoral Council President Mariano Fiallos Oyanguren press conference at the Heroes and Martyrs Room of the Government House in Managua -- live]

[Excerpts] [Cabrera] Luis Cabrera of Voz de Nicaragua. The counterrevolutionary groups operating in Nicaragua, Honduras, and Costa Rica have been publicizing recent military offensives in which they speak of alleged victories. How do you analyze these latest counterrevolutionary actions; what is the current military situation; and what are the results of the terrorist actions of these groups?

[Ortega] We can tell you that, in the face of the impossibility of seizing military objectives, in the face of the impossibility of defeating the Sandinist People's Army [EPS] forces, the mercenary forces have devoted themselves to attacking economic targets in a new phase of aggression and terrorism. Those are the orders they have received from the U.S. Government through the Central Intelligence Agency. All the targets those mercenary forces have been attacking for some months have been essentially economic targets: agricultural cooperatives, health centers, schools, machinery for maintaining roads, transportation equipment, etc. They are attacking everything involved with production in an effort to destabilize the revolution economically.

[Name indistinct] Commander: To what point will you permit opposition parties to use economic figures to criticize FSLN policy?

[Ortega] Not only the political parties but also groups of businessmen and private sector groups in the Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] and in other organizations have been using economic data capriciously. They have been distorting our country's economic situation. They have published these distortions in Nicaraguan newspapers. Complete economic analyses by these groups, such as those of the COSEP, have been published in the newspaper LA PRENSA. These reports have not been censored. They have been published in full, even though they are completely false analyses of our economic reality. This is nothing new, the political parties and sectors of industry and commerce grouped in such organizations as the COSEP have already been using and publicizing economic figures.

[Talavera] Norman Talavera of LA PRENSA. Commander Ortega, can you explain the difference between the censorship that existed before 19 July for national security and defense reasons and the censorship you announced yesterday? Will military news alone be sent to the censorship office, or will the entire newspaper be checked, as in the past?

[Ortega] The newspaper is not the one to decide whether information is an attack on the nation's security. Instead, the decision is up to the office in charge of regulating this type of information. Therefore, all newspapers in the country, without exception, have to undergo that prior check to see whether they include that type of information. The important thing is that newspapers will now be able to express themselves as they wish, enabling political parties to use radio and press media in their electoral efforts.

[Veces] Yolanda Veces of the newspaper EL REPORTERO of Puerto Rico. In light of President Reagan's possible reelection in November, how does this affect national defense, and what will the strategy until November be?

[Ortega] Before President Reagan took office his platform clearly expressed the desire to liquidate the Nicaraguan revolution, so we began preparing to face U.S. aggression and even a possible massive direct intervention of U.S. troops with bombings and air attacks. We have been advancing in this regard, so the fact that President Reagan might be reelected will not take us by surprise, since there is already a policy on the defense of the revolution.

[Name indistinct] of Belgian radio. Do you think that yesterday's measures have created the appropriate climate for free and democratic elections?

[Ortega] Well, with these measures we are making maximum efforts to provide every guarantee and facility to all the political forces wishing to participate in the elections so they can freely mobilize, carry out their activities indoors, in the squares, and in the streets, and express themselves through the news media, so that they can present their programs, defend their political views and ideology, and have the opportunity to work for the elections with every necessary guarantee.

[Alvarez] Oscar Alvarez of Radio Sandino. Commander Ortega: International reports have been attacking the revolution by using information that is harmful to it. In this case, there are reports from the United States implicating leaders of the revolution in alleged drug trafficking in our country. There is also mention of an alleged trial begun in Miami by U.S. judicial authorities to investigate an Interior Ministry official. How do you link this systematic campaign by the transnational news media to the aggression against the revolution by the U.S. Government?

[Ortega] This is not a coincidence. As is well known, the truth about the Nicaraguan revolution is becoming increasingly known by the U.S. people. In other words, the U.S. public is becoming more aware of the reality of the Nicaraguan revolution. They have been rejecting all the lies and slanders that the U.S. Administration has launched against this revolutionary process. There is an election campaign going on in the United States. The Central American topic, particularly the administration's policy of aggression against Nicaragua, is a campaign issue. It is not a coincidence that the Reagan administration has launched an offensive on the eve of 19 July. This offensive combines two elements that try to manipulate the feelings, honesty and, in some cases, the naivete of some sectors of the U.S. population. Some days before the commemoration of the fifth anniversary, President Reagan himself talked about Soviet presence in Nicaragua and Nicaraguan-USSR ties as a threat to the region's stability.

Coinciding with this statement by President Reagan, charges have been made that Nicaraguan Government officials are involved in drug trafficking. We must say that this charge is merely an infamous slander by the U.S. Administration. It is an effort aimed at discrediting the Nicaraguan revolution before the U.S. public and justifying the warlike activity currently being carried out around Nicaragua.

In addition, we must say that the U.S. Administration is so immoral that it has been murdering an entire people. This is an act much more immoral than the activities of drug traffickers. The situation worsens when we look at the mercenary forces being launched against Nicaragua. There are special forces within these mercenaries, trained by the CIA and U.S. Army specialists from the Pentagon. When these special forces are surrounded by our troops they are joined by full companies of mercenaries, and they hurl themselves, drugged and blind, against our forces, trying to break up our encirclement through sheer brute force.

The United States has been using drugs on some special forces, the mercenary forces they launch against the Nicaraguan people. Drugs are being used under the pressure of military encirclement.

[Name indistinct] Commander: I am [name indistinct] from CNN. Commander Ortega: President Reagan saluted the fifth anniversary yesterday with comments about Nicaragua being a totalitarian dungeon. Could you refer specifically to this, and also to the persistent rumors that Nicaragua (words indistinct] Soviet MIG's, which are supposedly in Cuba at this moment?

[Ortega] I think that if there is a totalitarian administration, if there is currently a totalitarian government in the world, it is the U.S. Government. It is a totalitarian government because it acts against the will of the North American people. We are sure that the North American people did not agree with the U.S. decision to send troops to Lebanon. Neither do the North American people agree with the U.S. military involvement in the Central American conflict. Also, we are certain that the North American people disagree with the North American Government's attacks on and murder of the Nicaraguan people.

[Name indistinct] What about the planes, Commander?

[Orgega] As for the planes, Nicaragua is the only country in Central America -- including Costa Rica, of course -- that does not have planes for defense. On the other hand, Nicaragua is the only Central American country that is being attacked by a military power, a world power like the United States. Therefore, it is logical and normal that Nicaragua should seek to obtain planes. These planes might be MIG's, they might be of any make, any (?plane); the important thing is that Nicaragua has the right and duty to have planes, and Nicaragua will have planes to defend itself from the aggression it is suffering.

[Name indistinct] of Radio Beijing of the PRC. Commander Ortega: Do you think the tense relations between the United States and Nicaragua can be eased through the process of the dialouge begun in Manzanillo? What is the Nicaraguan position on that process?

[Ortega] We want to achieve an agreement, an understanding with the United States. That is why we have always been willing to hold a dialogue with the United States. We have spoken with the United States on various occasions. We will continue the dialogue that began in Manzanillo and moved to Atlanta. We think it is up to the United States to really help and to take practical steps to advance in laying foundations for a negotiating process, to achieve an easing of tensions in U.S.-Nicaraguan relations, and to achieve an easing of tensions in the region.

[Lloyd] Robin Lloyd of NBC. If you would permit me, Commander, I would like to ask the foreign minister a question about what you said about the MIG's. It was a very clear statement that you will have MIG's or combat airplanes here in Nicaragua. As you and the foreign minister know, U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger has stated clearly that such an occurrence could provoke a very strong reaction from the United States, implying bombings and I don't know what else. My question to the foreign minister is: What repercussions will the decision to bring combat planes, whether they be MIG's or any other type, to Nicaragua have on Nicaragua's foreign policy? If this is done, when and what type of planes will they be?

[D'Escoto] The general principle is easy to understand. The government has an obligation to take every necessary measure to defend national sovereignty and territorial integrity. In this regard, we will take every necessary measure to defend ourselves.

The aggression and the specific (?military) threat will have a bearing on what we obtain. We cannot be asked -- as no country in the world can be asked -- to refuse to prepare to defend our country. It is an inalienable and sacred obligation of every government.

[Osorio] Raul Osorio Vargas of Cadena CARACOL of Colombia. Commander: Some say that the Contadora Group is exhausted and is only a friendly club. What is Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction's definitive position on the Contadora document for peace and cooperation in Central America, since you have prepared several technical and legal observations of that document?

[Ortega] We believe that the Contadora Group has played a very active, constructive, and positive role with regard to the Central American problems. The Contadora Group combines the efforts of Latin America, which is concerned about the Central American situation. It has borne fruit. It is not simply a friendly club of Central American countries. Instead, it is an effort by a Latin America concerned about Central American problems and taking specific steps [words indistinct]. We could say that the Contadora effort has helped to prevent the further deterioration of the already bad situation in the region. It has been laying the foundations for a possible understanding, a possible agreement among the Central American countries. Regarding the document presented to the Central American countries by Contadora, we have responded to this proposed document. We have issued a written reply. We think we are the first country to do so. As is logical, we accepted all those points that received a consensus in the prior meetings between the Central American countries and the technical commission. We proposed further discussion of those points that did not obtain a consensus and that might have been included in the Contadora document.

[Osorio] Commander: Could you tell me what those points were?

[Ortega] It would take too long to give details, and we have a commitment to not make these internal replies public.

[Name indistinct] I am [name indistinct] of ASSOCIATED PRESS. Commander Ortega: You said yesterday that there will be no press censorship, with the exception of information that might affect state security. Will the opposition parties be permitted to criticize the shortage of staples in the country and, in general, criticize the government's economic policy through the press?

[Ortega] I explained earlier that this is nothing new. There is an impression, efforts have been made to give the world the impression that there is terrible press censorship here. Despite the press restrictions that have existed, newspapers here have reported as they please. I was explaining at the beginning of the press conference that they have made known their opinions on economy and the shortages, blaming the revolutionary government and the FSLN and completely ignoring the international economic crisis, the foreign debt, and the aggression. They have been trying to present the crisis in Nicaragua as an isolated case, when we all know that the crisis is affecting the whole world, especially the developing countries, and above all the Latin American countries, particularly in Central America. Therefore, in this sense, there will be nothing new. They will just be repeating an old speech.

To conclude, we wanted to add that the aircraft carrier Kennedy, with 70 planes aboard, is located at a distance of between 81 and 100 km east northeast of Bluefields, about 30 km [word indistinct] of Cabo Blanco (?off) Costa Rica. [sentence as heard] There is always talk of the possibility of an intervention, of landings by the 82d Airborne Division. This is something that we cannot rule out.

We cannot rule out this administration's trying to play an electoral card with regard to Nicaragua by launching a large-scale invasion involving air and naval forces, with the idea of quickly liquidating the Nicaraguan revolution and presenting a victory to the U.S. public. This danger exists. The danger of invasion exists. There are plans that have been developed in this regard. These plans include the massive use of the U.S. Air Force to bomb key targets in Nicaraguan territory. There are plans to support the advance of mercenary forces, to try to involve other Central American armies in that attack, and to use U.S. troops, above all in coastal zones. With these plans they are trying to involve the fewest number of U.S. troops possible due to the political costs that the deaths of U.S. soldiers in another territory would have in the United States. That is why there is concern about and why attention is drawn to this campaign in which President Reagan is involved, personally accusing Nicaragua and setting up a tawdry show in Miami to begin a trial against Nicaraguan authorities, whom they accuse of being involved in drug trafficking. They say they have proof. Obviously, this is nothing new.

They are now trying to set up a show for the U.S. public regarding this matter of drugs. If anyone is responsible for drug trafficking against the Nicaraguan people, it is the U.S. Government, which sends those drugged, criminal mercenaries to attack and kill the Nicaraguan people. Thank you very much.

FURTHER ON DELEGATIONS ATTENDING ANNIVERSARY

USSR, Other Groups Depart

PA212302 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] The Soviet and French delegations that participated in ceremonies to mark the fifth anniversary of the triumph of the Sandinist people's revolution were seen off this morning at Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport. These foreign delegations were seen off by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez Tellez, the State Council president, and Julio Lopez, on behalf of the FSLN International Relations Department. At the same time, the Cypriot and Greek delegations also left after expressing their firmest solidarity with the Nicaraguan Government and people.

Suriname's Bouterse Remarks

PA220338 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Suriname is an open country and people can enter or leave unless they are counterrevolutionary agents, Desi Bouterse, leader of that country's revolution said this morning during a press conference. The leader said that like Nicaragua or any small country daring to stage a revolution to benefit its people, Suriname is a victim of isolation and misinformation, as well as of economic blockade carried out by imperialism. Bouterse said that this situation forces us to seek resources in other latitudes because the Netherlands, which was the colonizing nation, also takes part in the blockade. As a poor country, Suriname cannot influence international public opinion, the statesman said.

Urges Support for Contadora

PA222305 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] Surinamese leader Desi Bouterse has urged the world to support the Contadora Group. He warned yesterday that the U.S. Administration should not only back Contadora efforts with words but with specific actions.

He also expressed his confidence in the efforts of the Contadora Group's foreign ministers and issued a call to the world to back these peace efforts in Central America. The Surinamese leader said that the Nicaraguan revolution and people deserve world solidarity because of the example they are setting in their struggle for peace and freedom in Central America. Bouterse stressed that the struggle of the Salvadoran and Guatemalan people is an expression of the situation being experienced in the area, a result of the exploitation and misery to which the peoples have been subjected. Yesterday, Bouterse emphasized the need to support the Contadora Group's efforts and to reject the aggressive policy of the U.S. Administration.

[Begin Bouterse recording in Surinamese with simultaneous translation into Spanish] In Suriname, we are becoming increasingly concerned over an increase in tensions in Central America. These tensions are a result of dangerous attempts to try to change the path of history. Regarding the Caribbean problem, we think that one must have a very clear idea of how this problem should be resolved.

In addition, the struggle of the Salvadoran and Guatemalan people is an expression of the situation being experienced in the area, a result of economic exploitation, misery, and oppression. [Words indistinct] El Salvador because of the economic and military aid to that regime. [Words indistinct] that socioeconomic problems will never be solved through aggression.

(?I say this) because there are certain countries with large interests in this region, but this region is ours. It is shared by our peoples so we must continue to look for peaceful solutions to the problems. Therefore, we have much faith in the work being done by Contadora so we want to urge the world to support this work in order to find a peaceful solution to the problems. [end recording]

Surinamese Solidarity Message

PA220440 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] The people and Government of Suriname express their solidarity with the Nicaraguan people's revolution, a message sent to the Nicaraguan Government junta states. On the occasion of the fifth anniversary of the revolution, a statement expressing the Surinamese anti-imperialist policy was issued to the FSLN. Our people also try to liberate themselves from imperialism and work for world peace which is endangered by the White House's warmongering policy, the Surinamese message added.

Bouterse, GDR's Axen Depart

PA222344 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1300 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Report by Oscar Alvarez Montiel from the Augusto Cesar Sandino International Airport]

[Text] Surinamese leader Desi Bouterse left Nicaragua a few minutes ago at the end of his visit to attend the commemoration of the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution. Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the government junta; Father Miguel D'Escoto Brockman, foreign minister; ministers, member of the Supreme Electoral Council, and a group of children of the [Luis Alfonso Velasquez Flores] Sandinist Children Association -- who delivered flowers to the Surinamese leader -- saw Bouterse off at the airport.

Yesterday, Bouterse expressed his solidarity with the Nicaraguan people and revolution and said that the countries of the world should support the efforts of the Contadora Group which is the force to find solutions to the Central American conflict. A Sandinist People's Army [EPS] delegation rendered Bouterse military honors [words indistinct] Commander Ortega reviewed EPS troops at the airport.

Another report indicates that Hermann Axen, member of the Politburo of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, left early this morning following his participation in the celebration of the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution. He said that the aggression against the Nicaraguan people by the U.S. Government is serious, but that there are many factors which, due to the fighting spirit of Nicaraguans, guarantee that there will be peace and that U.S. aggression will be defeated. Let's hear Axen:

[Begin recording] [Axen in German with superimposed Spanish translation] We leave with a convincing impression of the strength of the revolution and the people's close ties with the ideas of Sandino and the revolution.

[Unidentified reporter] What can you tell us about the prevailing situation of aggression against Nicaragua by the U.S. Government?

[Axen] The danger of aggression is serious but there are many factors that guarantee that there will be peace and that aggression will be defeated. The first and most important factor is the fighting spirit and the [word indistinct] of the Nicaraguan people. The second factor is the solidarity of progressive and peace-loving forces and the third factor [words indistinct] many progressive sectors that support a realistic cooperation [words indistinct]. In other words, the conclusion is that defense must be reinforced, production must be increased, and constructive negotiations must be (?resumed).

[Reporter] What can you promise the Nicaraguan people that your party will do to stop the aggression by the U.S. Government?

[Axen] [Words indistinct] on the side of all the progressive peoples unmasking the aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism in all phases [words indistinct] foreign policy and helping the Nicaraguan people to oranize their lives. [end recording]

PARTY LEADERS ON D. ORTEGA 19 JULY SPEECH

PA210250 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] The parties and members of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board have reacted in various ways after listening yesterday to Commander Daniel Ortega. This morning we contacted Fanor Avendano, a member of the Social Christian Party Directors Council, who told us what his party will do:

[Begin recording] [Avendano] After listening to Commander Daniel Ortega yesterday, the Social Christian Party Directors Council held an urgent meeting. We are not satisfied with his words; we expected a more liberal attitude. That is why we called an urgent meeting. We are planning a national directorate meeting this Saturday to decide what to do. [end recording]

The Nicaraguan Socialist Party [PSN] also held a meeting today to analyze Daniel Ortega's announcements. Adolfo Evertz, PSN vice presidential candidate, said they had expected more from Ortega.

[Begin Evertz recording] Our party is definitely going to issue an official statement. First we will hold a meeting to analyze Ortega's statements, which are very important to the country's political and social life. [end recording]

PCDN LEADER SEEKS FURTHER FSLN GUARANTEES

PA211723 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1830 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Excerpts] Dr Enrique Sotelo Borgen, coordinator of the Democratic Conservative Party of Nicaragua, PCDN, said last night that his party's participation in the November elections will depend upon what further guarantees are offered by the FSLN. He described the measures announced by the revolutionary government as good, but said that others are also necessary, such as clarification of the laws on habeas corpus and the initiation of other radio newscasts.

[Begin recording] [Sot lo] Well, these measures are good ones, but they do not go far enough; we need further steps. It is fine that we can now hold meetings and stage demonstrations, but we also need guarantees for our citizens, because situations of this sort -- situations involved in campaigning and similar actions by citizens -- could produce confrontations with the authorities. This will certainly happen. Thus, we need access to the law on habeas corpus, which does exist but which has been suspended.

[Unidentified reporter] What does your party think of the government's decision to lift press censorship?

[Sotelo] The PCDN favors any measure that contributes to an improved climate of freedom. However, we must insist that radio newscasts, which are the best source of information, be permitted to resume. It is not enough to suspend press censorship: there is a need for a full resumption of radio newscasts, so that the Nicaraguan people may be kept informed.

[Reporter] Following the announcement of the new measures by the revolutionary government, is there a chance that the PCDN will now participate in the November elections?

[Sotelo] Well, we are working on that. We are looking at the prospects. We have even named a presidential candidate, Dr Clemente Guido. On Tuesday, we will see whether we can name all of the other candidates for vice president and national assembly seats. However, the decision to conduct truly free elections -- with every necessary facility, shall we say -- is not ours; that depends upon the ruling party.

[Reporter] Could the political parties' efforts and initiatives be guaranteed when the Kennedy, a U.S. warship, is only 80 km from Bluefields? In your opinion, couldn't this hamper the electoral process? What would you say about this situation: Doesn't it threaten the elections?

[Sotelo] We have no knowledge of military secrets and that sort of thing. We are an eminently civilian party. It is not within our purview to involve ourselves in military situations. We expect an electoral process. We believe, as we have said before, that the stabilization of peace depends upon the government's domestic decisions; peace depends upon how the government treats Nicaraguans, as does harmony among the Nicaraguans. As for U.S. warships and such, we could also name something else that produces great anguish in our country: the large number of internationalists working here. No one can deny that there are thousands of such internationalists, who constitute [words indistinct] in our political life.

[Reporter] What about those who are teaching Nicaraguans to read, who are building bridges and providing medical treatment?

[Sotelo] In one way or another, they are all aspects of political intervention in our country. We must not deceive ourselves: Our country is involved in the East-West conflict. We need to get out of this situation, which is why we must hold elections, and why we are calling for peace. We want to see Nicaragua solve its own problems, without the intervention of Cubans, Bulgarians, Czechoslovaks, Soviets, Yankees, Chinese, or anyone else, who try to solve our problems incorrectly.

[Reporter] In your opinion, then, the U.S. Government is not intervening?

[Sotelo] I am referring to everyone, that is why I did not refer to anyone in particular. I am referring to any kind of intervention, whether from the east, the west, the north, or the south, whether by the Yankees or the Soviets. [end recording]

OPPOSITION NAMES CANDIDATES, SEEKS DIALOGUE

PA211607 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] After leaders of the so-called Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board rejected the call to a meeting issued by the FSLN's Political Committee through Commander of the Revolution Bayardo Arce Castano, the committee coordinator, they are now demanding that a dialogue take place before 25 July. They are threatening not to present their candidates for the elections if the meeting does not take place. The Coordinating Board's demand for dialogue is a repeat of last December's proposal, which the United States has used as an excuse for withholding its blessing for the electoral process. The Coordinating Board's demands include dialogue with the Somozist guards, autonomy for the judicial branch, the enforcement of the right of habeas corpus, and the presence of OAS observers during the elections. They also include an amnesty for the guards who are currently killing Nicaraguans in the border areas.

Luis Rivas, the nominal president of the Coordinating Board, has announced that the organization's candidates for president and vice president are Arturo Cruz and Adan Fletes.

ARCHBISHOP URGES PEOPLE TO VOTE IF ELECTIONS FREE

PA230211 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0022 GMT 23 Jul 84

[Text] Managua, 22 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- The church today recommended that Nicaraguan Catholics vote in the next elections for people who respect dignity and human rights." [quotation marks as received] Managua Archbishop Miguel Obando y Bravo said during his Sunday homily that "Christians must vote" if the elections of 4 November are held in an atmosphere of freedom. He said at "Las Sierritas" Temple on the outskirts of Managua that in order for the balloting to be "honest and responsible" voters must bear in mind what type of platform they will support and who proposes or represents it. The archbishop stressed at the temple, which is now serving as a makeshift Managua cathedral, that Catholics must elect people who respect dignity and human rights. Obando, who is also vice president of the Episcopal Conference, said during his brief allusion to the elections that votes must be cast for the people who promote harmony. "The people who spread the chaff amid the wheat must not be elected," he emphasized. "If the elections are free the people are obliged to vote," said Obando.

Although the FSLN and its allies have announced that they will register candidates next week, the opposition groups are standing by their decision not to register candidates. The opposition is demanding guarantees and public freedoms to participate in the election. The dealine to register candidates for the next elections in which a president, vice president, and 90 national assembly members will be elected will expire in 3 days.

EVANGELICAL PASTORS' GROUP ISSUES COMMUNIQUE

PA211744 Managua EL NUEVO DIARIO in Spanish 20 Jul 84 p 10

[Text] We believe that the counterrevolutionary activities of certain political leaders who are trying to destroy the revolution using the camouflage of religious garb are subject to condemnation by the Word of God. This was declared in a pastoral communique issued by the Nicaraguan National Association of Evangelical Pastors, APEN [Asociacion Nacional de Pastores Evangelicos de Nicaragua], in honor of the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist people's revolution. The document has been disseminated by Rev Oscar Godoy and Rev Juan E. Castillo, the organization's president and secretary. Their document declared: "We are a pastoral organization that is committed to the gospel of the poor (Luke 4;18). Our organization seeks to be on the side of the majority of our people, who have so long been exploited and dominated by the more dominant classes and by the United States."

The pastors acknowledge the efforts for peace carried out by the sister countries of the Contadora Group, noting that these nations have not given up their search for peace in Central America, despite the blockade imposed by the Reagan government. The document then declared: "We support our government because it has shown goodwill, and because there is a chance of achieving solutions to international problems in our realm without damaging the self-determination and sovereignty of our nation. We believe that the democratic and pluralistic elections that will be held on 4 November will reveal the people's confidence in and goodwill toward their political leaders."

In its statement, the APEN regrets the position taken by Protestant organizations, which have chosen to remain silent at this historic moment for our people, (?whose sons) have shed their generous blood defending the homeland against an enemy who murders our children. Our people are being killed by the criminal weapons wielded by genocidal, traitorous mercenaries who, financed and directed by the CIA, are trying to take away the freedom that we attained at the cost of more than 50,000 lives.

Finally, discussing religious men who involve themselves in counterrevolutionary activities, the APEN asserted that these men are now rearing what they have sown. The government's action toward them is understandable, for it acts legally and in defense of the revolution, and not in efforts at religious persecution, as the people's enemies are trying to tell the world, it declared.

REPORTAGE ON ARMY, CIVILIAN CASUALTIES IN ATTACKS

4 EPS Officers Killed

PA211510 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] On the same day that the Nicaraguan people were celebrating the fifth anniversary of our revolutionary victory, a mercenary group attacked a truck carrying several Sandinist People's Army officers, killing 2d Lieutenants Guillermo Gomez Gutierrez, Humberto Galo, Javier Blandon, and Walter Zeledon Escoto.

The attack was perpetrated in the area of Matiguas, some 50 km from Matagalpa. The wounded were Lieutenant Jose Rivera; 2d Lieutenants Carlos Hernandez Zuloaitiga, Ronald Enrique Fernandez, and Anibal Torres Fuentes; and Companero Miguel Lopez Hernandez. Five counterrevolutionaries were killed when the attack was repelled. Meanwhile, the Sandinist People's Militias in the settlement of El Cairo, 3 km from the border post of El Espino -- which consists of three families that produce basic grains in a cooperative -- repelled an attack by some 100 mercenaries who came from Honduras. The attackers fired dozens of mortar rounds and attacked the small settlement with artillery fire. Three militia members set up a barricade while their families fled the area. Militia member Francisco Rodriguez died courageously during the difficult struggle, while 5-year-old Eric Pino, 8-year-old Santos Conrado, 7-year-old Paula Victoria, Coronado Lagos, Jose Miguel Lopez, and Timoteo Lagos were wounded.

4 Civilians Killed in Ambush

PA211500 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Yesterday, mercenaries who are paid and equipped by the Reagan administration ambushed three trucks bearing civilians in the 6th rural region, headquartered in Matagalpa. Seven people, including a 4-year-old-child, were killed in cowardly fashion in these ambushes. The first ambush took place at 1100 on km 10 of the highway to Waslala, near the La Posadera farm, which had just been looted and destroyed by a counterrevolutionary force. The contras fired indiscriminately, killing four people: 19-year-old Edgar Acevedo Lopez, a member of the Patriotic Military Service who had been granted leave and who was traveling with his father, and 39-year-old Alfonso Lopez Davila, both of whom were from Monimbo, Masaya. Also killed were 48-year-old Candido Ocejo, assistant to the truck driver; 4-year-old Maria Hortensia Ocejo Pineda; and 26-year-old Samuel Ocejo, the girl's uncle. Those who were wounded in the criminal attack on the La Posadera Farm were 53-year-old Hortensia Morales de Ocejo, the mother of Maria Hortensia; 16-year-old Raul Fuentes; 23-year-old Cristina Randon; and Alfonso Lopez Davila. There were 20 people on the truck, most of them traveling from the La Rosita mine, where they live, to Matagalpa to attend a relative's funeral. After being held by the contras for more than an hour, the civilians arrived in Matagalpa at 1300 and took the wounded to a local hospital. The truck driver, who has not been identified, was kidnapped by the killers. In addition, official reports note that on the afternoon of 19 July, another counterrevolutionary group ambushed two trucks bearing civilians inthe area of El Guayabo, near Waslala. Two men and one woman were wounded in this criminal attack; they have not yet been identified. Our authorities immediately initiated a search for the killers.

This kind of unspeakable action justifies the revolutionary government's decision to extend the state of emergency until the month of October, as a way of controlling these criminals, who receive money and training in other countries and then come to kill our people.

CHAMORRO REPLACES PASTORA AS ARDE COMMANDER

PA201740 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 1719 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Panama, 20 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- Fernando Chamorro, better known as "El Negro," has been appointed commander in chief of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) forces, replacing Eden Pastora. "El Negro" Chamorro, 55, is currently in the southern part of Nicaragua, according to the ARDE directorate's announcement, which was revealed to ACAN-EFE by William Tefel, the new military commander's personal representative in that city. The source also noted that Eden Pastora's substitute will reorganize the ARDE military cadres that operate in southern Nicaragua.

Chamorro, who fought against dictator Anastasio Somoza with the Sandinists, broke with the Nicaraguan revolution in the year of its triumph (1979). He belongs to the group called the Nicaraguan Democratic Union-Revolutionary Armed Forces of Nicaragua (UDN-FARN), which joined the ARDE coalition in January. Eden Pastora's replacement as head of the ARDE armed groups took place 50 days after "Commander Cero" suffered an attack on his life, which removed him from the scene of the fighting.

MISURASATA Leader Backs Pastora

PA202230 Paris AFP in Spanish 2145 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpts] San Jose, 20 Jul (AFP) -- Brooklyn Rivera, leader of the anti-Sandinist Indian group Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Sandinist Unity [MISURASATA], today publicly expressed support for Commander Eden Pastora and made an appeal to the members of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, to overcome their differences. In addition, Rivera expressed support for the Recovery and National Coordination group headed by Alfredo Cesar, Alfonso Cruz, and Eden Pastora. The three have expressed their willingness to participate in the Nicaraguan elections, "provided they are free and democratic," and stressed that this stand is "the most coherent and intelligent that anti-Sandinist Nicaraguans can promote at this time." The Miskito leader also condemned the "imposition of a white organization" by the Nicaraguan regime to represent the Indians, which will be installed next Sunday at Puerto Cabezas, on the Atlantic coast. Expelled from ARDE -- something he has not admitted to -- Pastora today holds a position of strength in the alliance, where he has the support of four of the seven organizations, including MISURASATA.

Pastora Derides Appointment

PA220236 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0009 GMT 22 Jul 84

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (ACAN-EFE) -- Eden Pastora today scoffed at the appointment of Commander Fernando Chamorro (El Negro) as "military chief" of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE). The anti-Sandinist group ARDE-2 that is led by Alfonso Robelo has announced Chamorro's appointment. During a press conference organized in San Jose today by exiled Nicaraguan leader Alfredo Cesar, a radio-telephone linkup was established with Commander Cero who is still with his troops in the mountains of southern Nicaragua. The ACAN-EFE correspondent asked Pastora his opinion of the appointment of Chamorro who, according to press reports from Panama, will replace him as commander in chief of the ARDE Forces.

"We who fight here in the mountains against the Managua dictatorship believe in the appointments made by the 8,000 men in the battlefields," Commander Cero said, "and not in those made by announcements drawn up in some comfortable office." "But," he added, "if he wants to come, let him come; we will be waiting for him and we will see how our 16 zone commanders and thousands of fighters receive him."

Meanwhile, Adolfo Chamorro (Popo), one of Pastora's high-ranking officers, told ACAN-EFE that the farce of the appointment of "Negro" Chamorro is another maneuver in the propaganda war that the organizations expelled from ARDE, that is, the Nicaraguan Democratic Movement and the Nicaraguan Democratic Union-Revolutionary Armed Forces are carrying out to make the world believe that the fighters are following Alfonso Robelo and his ARDE-2, the ARDE of the wealthy and the right wing." [quotation marks as received]

PASTORA SUPPORTS CRUZ' PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

PA220350 Paris AFP in Spanish 2020 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] San Jose, 21 Jul (AFP) -- Nicaraguan guerrilla commander Eden Pastora today announced his support for presidential candidate Arturo Cruz and reiterated that he will relinquish armed struggle if the Sandinist government "democratizes" the revolution. Pastora said, however, that it must remain "absolutely clear that the offer to stop the fighting will be fulfilled only when the FSLN accepts our terms." Regarding Cruz' nomination as single candidate of the opposition, Pastora said: "This will become historical in the struggle for Nicaragua's democratization because this is the first time that the opposition has expressed itself in this manner."

In addition, Pastora scoffed at the report that the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, has ousted him from his position as military commander and appointed Fernando "Negro" Chamorro to replace him. Pastora said: "Here in our guerrilla organization leaders are not hand picked because it's combatants themselves, those who wield the rifles, who determine who their commanders will be." Pastora, better known as Commander Cero, spoke for the Costa Rican press through "friendly amateur radio operators" from southeast Nicaragua. Pastora returned to his camps in this area after the 30 May terrorist attempt on his life.

VOICE OF SANDINO BULLETINS REPORT ARDE ACTIVITIES

PA221832 [Editorial Report] The (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua at 2300 GMT on 21 July broadcasts nine "war bulletins" issued on 21 July 1984 by the "Interim General Command of the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, in Sarapiqui, in the 'free territory of Nicaragua.'"

War Bulletin No 267 reports that "on 24 July at 1604 the Gaspar Garcia Laviana Column, a part of the Pablo Martinez Unit and commanded by Companero Tombo, ambushed a patrol from the Soviet-Cuban Army of occupation that came to reinforce the Nueva Guinea command." It adds that the action took place "on km 6 of the road to Njeva Guinea," and says that the ARDE troops "inflicted three dead and many wounded on the enemy." It concludes that ARDE's units suffered no casualties in the action.

War Bulletin No 268 reports that "on 19 July at 1100 the Rene Miranda Column, a part of the Sierra Commando Unit and commanded by brave Companero Jonathan, ambushed Sandinist People's Army [EPS] squad in (La Esperanzita), in Punta Gorda." "The people's enemies sustained five dead and several wounded in this clash, which lasted 10 minutes." Again, it is reported that the "guerrilla columns sustained no casualties" in this action.

This same war bulletin also reports that "on 19 July, at 1400, the same column commanded by Companero Mexicano ambushed another EPS patrol: in the same place, inflicting "three dead and many wounded" on the enemy "in 5 minutes of fighting." "We sustained no casualties," the report states.

War Bulletin No 269 reports that "on 26 June at 1800 the Zacarias Ribas Column, part of the Sierra Commando Unit and commanded by companero Espadachin, attacked the EPS command in (La Esperanzita), Punta Gorda." It says that the attack, carried out with rifles, "inflicted 10 dead and 2 wounded on the EPS guards." The report claims no ARDE casualties in the 35-minute clash.

War Bulletin No 270 declares that "on 26 June at 0400 the Francisco Estrada Column, a part of the Sierra Commando Unit and commanded by Companero Jonathan, harassed the pro-Soviet garrison in the La Fonseca neighborhood of Nueva Guinea for 30 minutes." It indicates that "the invincible ARDE fighters inflicted 22 casualties, 8 dead and 14 wounded, on the Cuban-Soviet army of occupation." The ARDE forces are reported to have sustained no casualties.

War Bulletin No 271 reports that "on 21 June at 1400 the Rene Miranda Column, a part of the Sierra Commando Unit and commanded by Companero Mexicano, attacked two companies belonging to the Interior Ministry's special forces, which were about to begin a patrol 1 km from Colonia Serrano, in Nueva Guinea." It reports that 19 enemy casualties were inflicted and says the the rest of the EPS unit "fled in disarray, leaving behind munitions and supplies that were seized by our forces." The report adds that ARDE sustained no casualties in the 20-minute clash.

War Bulletin No 272 reports that "on 26 June at 1500 the Rene Miranda Column, a part of the Sierra Commando Unit and commanded by Companero Mexicano, ambushed a reconnaissance patrol belonging to the Soviet-Cuban Army of occupation in Nueva Guinea, 5 km from the Serrano neighborhood." It adds that "the peasant uprising inflicted 12 dead and 11 wounded on the enemies of freedom in 35 minutes of fierce combat." The bulletin maintains that the enemy fled in disarray and that the ARDE units sustained no casualties in this action.

War Bulletin No 273 states that "on 21 June at 0730 the [name indistinct] Column" staged and ambush against enemy troops, the site of which is also indistinct. The report notes that the enemy "sustained nine casualties and fled in disarray," while ARDE suffered no casualties in the 10-minute clash.

In War Report No 274, ARDE's Interim General Command reports that "on 26 June at 1300 the Garcia Laviana Column, a part of the Sandino Revolutionary Front and commanded by Companero Papachu, attacked a pro-Soviet EPS company near the El Porvenir neighborhood in (La Angostura), Nueva Guinea." It indicates that the "army of workers and peasants inflicted four dead and several wounded" on the enemy, which fled in disarray. "Our forces sustained no casualties in the 10-minute clash," the report concludes.

War Bulletin No 275 reports that "on 18 July the Atlantic front's [name indistinct] squad, commanded by Companero Coyote, clashed with the EPS several kilometers south of Bluefields." It goes on to say that the "rebel army inflicted 45 casualties on the interventionist Army," and that "two push-and-pull [in English] aircraft that were supporting the EPS were downed by our army of workers and peasants."

The bulletin also states that a helicopter that was unloading military supplies for the "interventionist forces was damaged," and that "all of the occupants of the three aircraft were killed."

The war bulletins all conclude with the usual slogan, "Without totalitarianism or a return to the past," and are all signed by "Commander Ramon, interim general commander of the ARDE Armed Forces."

ASSEMBLY MEETS TO STUDY 1985 DRAFT BUDGET

FL201158 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The country's first extraordinary assembly of the People's Government to analyze next year's draft budget and financial plan was held in the Province of Cienfuegos, site of the main 26 July ceremony. The process, which began in April in the municipalities, had ample participation by delegates from local organizations. The assembly's report calls for an 8.8-percent increase in gross production over this year's figure. The most noticeable increases will occur in light industry, food, and transportation. In Cienfuegos, the construction sector will have an increase of more than 1 million pesos over this year's estimated production and there will also be increases in the recovery and manufacture of spare parts, marginal production, and the food production network.

1984 FOREIGN DEBT PAYMENTS RENEGOTIATED

FL201500 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1402 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] In Paris, Raul Leon Torras, minister president of the National Bank of Cuba, has signed an agreement for the renegotiation of the 1984 due dates for Cuban foreign debts to be paid in convertible currency. The document was signed by the Governments of Austria, Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Spain, France, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, and the United Kingdom. The agreement provides for refinancing 100 percent of the 1984 foreign debt payments and grants a grace period of 5 years plus 4 additional years; that is, a period of 9 years is established for the payment of 219 million pesos and $181 million. During the ceremony, Leon Torras expressed his appreciation for the spirit of cooperation that was present throughout the recently concluded negotiations.

SOVIET MERCHANT FLEET ANNIVERSARY MARKED

FL211528 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1405 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] A ceremony commemorating the 60th anniversary of the USSR's maritime fleet has been held at the headquarters of the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association in the city of Havana. Many employees of the Soviet fleet and members of Cuba's Communist Party, the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions [CTC], the Cuban-Soviet Friendship Association, and the Cuban Foreign Trade Ministry attended the ceremony. (Yuriy Opstrovskiy), director of the USSR maritime fleet, gave the main speech at the ceremony and reviewed the work of the fleet from 1924 to date. He said that thanks to the work of the mariners and shore personnel, the voyages of Soviet ships to Cuba will continue. He said that on the 60th anniversary the personnel of the Soviet merchant fleet will continue to increase production.

NEW YORK TIMES CITED ON U.S. PRESSURING OF MEXICO

FL200108 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] The Reagan administration has exercised strong pressure on Mexico to change its position toward Nicaragua's Sandinist revolution and El Salvador's internal conflict. THE NEW YORK TIMES suggests that one of the consequences of this pressure was Mexico's decision to stop sending oil tankers to Nicaragua until it escapes from under its debts. The influential U.S. newspaper also recalled that Mexico sent Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda to El Salvador's President Jose Napoleon Duarte's presidential inauguration.

U.S. DEFENSE UNDER SECRETARY IKLE VISITS HONDURAS

PA202314 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Fred C. Ikle, U.S. under secretary of defense, has met with Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova in Tegucigalpa. The two analyzed relations between their countries and the regional situation. Ikle's visit coincides with the Honduran Government's revision of U.S.-Honduran military assistance treaties, which have been in effect since 1954. This revision is aimed at amending the treaties to obtain additional benefits for Honduras. Ikle said that U.S.-Honduran relations are very good. This view is shared and has been publicly reiterated by both high Honduran Government officials and U.S. Ambassador to Honduras John Dimitri Negroponte.

PRAVDA SAYS U.S. INVASION OF NICARAGUA LIKELY

FL210144 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Commander Daniel Ortega, coordinator of Nicaragua's Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction said today in Managua that Nicaragua will have modern military aircraft for defense purposes. Answering a question put to him by a U.S. reporter, Commander Ortega said that, with the exception of Costa Rica, Nicaragua is the only Central American nation that does not have a modern air force.

In Moscow, PRAVDA said in the last few hours that a direct invasion of Nicaragua by the United States seems more and more likely.

Meanwhile in Tegucigalpa, the Honduran Government has denied that there are preparations being made in its territory to invade Nicaragua. But, a spokesman for Honduras President Roberto Suazo Cordova has confirmed that very soon, new military agreements with the United States will be completed, negotiated by U.S. Under Secretary of Defense Fred Ikle. According to observers, the invasion of Nicaragua could be within these agreements.

NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA DISCUSSES U.S. POLICY

Use of 'State Terrorism'

PA211236 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Report from Managua by Pedro Martinez Pirez]

[Excerpt] Some 30,000 people gathered on Thursday at the Carlos Fonseca Amador Plaza-Park in Managua to celebrate the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution, to hold the U.S. Government responsible for the undeclared war on this Central American country, which has lasted for 3 and 1/2 years now, and to urge the U.S. Government to stop its attacks, in order to permit an end to the state of emergency.

Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega spoke at the ceremony after a recording of Carlos Fonseca was played in which Fonseca outlined the FSLN program. Ortega accused the U.S. Government of conducting a policy of state terrorism, which has resulted in the death of 7,391 Nicaraguans. Speaking before nearly 50 official delegations and some 400 guests from various continents, Ortaga confirmed the Sandinist government's decision to hold the first democratic elections in Nicaragua's history on 4 November, despite the mounting aggressive actions that have made it necessary to extend the emergency measures until 20 October.

Daniel Ortega announced that, despite this pressure, the Sandinist government has decided, in order to guarantee the purity of the presidential elections, to restore the right to circulate freely throughout the country, as well as the right to meet and demonstrate, so that all parties that participate in the electoral process may hold meetings, demonstrations and other gatherings, both indoors and outdoors. Freedom of expression is also guaranteed, with prior control to be exercised only over information about Nicaragua's defense, in view of the attacks it is facing from the U.S. military power. Another measure that was announced by Daniel Ortega is the extension of the deadline for anyone who wishes to accept the amnesty offered by the Sandinist government until 4 November, so that they may participate in the elections. Commander Ortega also reiterated the Sandinist government's respect for the peoples' religious faith and beliefs, and asked those who were present at the plaza to approve or disapprove the appointment of Father Fernando Cardenal as the new education minister; some 300,000 hands and flags were raised simultaneously to confirm Cardenal in his post.

U.S. Administration 'Immoral'

PA211854 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Report from Managua by Pedro Martinez Pirez]

[Excerpt] Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, coordinator of the Government Junta of National Reconstruction of Nicaragua, speaking at a news conference here in Managua before over 200 foreign correspondents today, condemned the provocative presence of the U.S. aircraft carrier John F. Kennedy off of Nicaragua's coasts, and described the Reagan administration as the most immmoral government ever suffered by the United States. Ortega charged that there is no regime more totalitarian in the world today than that of the Reagan government, which uses international terrorism as a state policy and resorts to such immoral practices as to accuse Nicaragua of participating in drug trafficking merely to justify its aggression against the Central American countries and to discredit the Sandinist government before the U.S. public.

Reiterating Nicaragua's decision to continue its dialogue with Washington in an effort to settle the area's problems peacefully, Ortega stressed the Nicaraguan people's inalienable right to obtain whatever weapons are deemed necessary for the defense of the revolution, anywhere in the world. Ortega recalled that, other than Costa Rica, Nicaragua is the only Central American country with no air force for its defense, and the only country in the area that is currently under attack by the U.S. military power.

Nicaragua will obtain planes wherever it can, the Sandinist leader declared. However, he added, we reiterate our willingness to talk and reach a settlement with the United States in order to ensure success of the Contadora Group's efforts.

On domestic policy, Commander Ortega reaffirmed the Sandinist government's decision to hold free and democratic elections on 4 November, including any opposition parties that may wish to participate.

Referring to the Sandinist revolution's decision to offer a pardon and to the possible participation in the elections of traitor Eden Pastora, Daniel Ortega said that the first thing Pastora would have to do is to ask the Nicaraguan people to forgive him for having participated in the attacks on Nicaragua on CIA orders, for having received money from the CIA, and for having joined the Somozist criminals in their attacks on Sandino's fatherland.

After referring to the achievements of the Sandinist government in the past 5 years, Daniel Ortega concluded his news conference by condemning the presence of the Yankee aircraft carrier off of Nicaragua's coasts.

Havana Radio Interview

PA212332 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction interviewed by Pedro Martinez Pirez on Managua on 20 July -- live or recorded]

[Text] [Martinez Pirez] Havana Radio has the great honor of speaking with Commander of the Revolution Daniel Ortega Saavedra, FSLN presidential candidate in the 4 November elections, here in Managua at this moment. Commander, if you could speak to the people of Latin American today, after having commemorated the fifth anniversary of the Sandinist revolution, what would you tell them through our radio?

[Ortega] First, I would like to express our gratitude for the opportunity offered by Havana Radio to speak to the Latin American peoples. Five years of revolution have passed in Nicaragua and we feel that these 5 years actually constitute 5 years of revolution for Latin America. That is, we do not feel that this revolution is limited to the Nicaraguan territory and people. We fell that this revolution belongs to Latin America; therefore, our advances, efforts, and sacrifices are the advances, efforts and sacrifices of the Latin American peoples.

It is important to point out that despite being confronted by the aggressive, criminal policy of U.S. imperialism, the Nicaraguan revolution has survived those constant attacks from that world military power. In our struggle against imperialist aggression, which has caused so much harm to our people in loss of lives and material damage to our economy, we feel that the attitude of Latin America has been most important and valuable. When we talk about the attitude of Latin America, we mean the peoples of Latin America. We also mean the majority of the Latin American governments which, responding in greater or lesser measure to the clamor of the Latin American peoples, have assumed a clear position in condemning the aggressive U.S. policy in Central America and in demanding a peaceful political solution through dialogue and negotiations, in view of the problems affecting the Central American region. When we refer to the Central American region we are thinking of the struggle being waged by the heroic people of El Salvador. Thus, the attitude of Latin America, of its peoples and most of all of its governments, within the context of the efforts of the Contadora Group, is a most important element of the struggle in which Nicaragua has been engaged in defense of its independence, its sovereignty, and against foreign aggression.

On this fifth anniversary we want to tell the Latin American peoples that we are grateful for their militant solidarity; that we know we are not alone in this struggle; and that such knowledge strengthens our spirit and morale to face the imperialist aggression on any terrain and to seek a political, honorable and dignified solution to the problems with the United States.

[Martinez Pirez] Commander, many of the guests here in Managua on this 19 July told us that Nicaragua is the hope of America today and have given us their assurances that this revolution is irrversible. Can you comment on this?

[Ortega] I think that opinion is correct. As I said at the beginning of this conversation, I think this revolution does not only belong to Nicaragua, but to Latin America. Therefore, it is the hope of Latin America. To the extent that this revolution is consolidated, Latin America's hope is strengthened, the possibilities for change in Latin America are strengthened, the possibilities for justice in Latin America are strengthened, the possibilities for freedom, democracy, independence, and sovereignty in Latin America are strengthened, and the possibilities for Latin American unity are strengthened. Therefore, I think that is a correct opinion just as it is correct to state that this revolution is irreversible. This revolution is irreversible. The people are the revolution and the only way this revolution can be destroyed is by completely destroying the people.

'OUR AMERICA' COMMENTARIES VIEW NICARAGUAN ADVANCES

Improvements in Education

PA200310 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 19 Jul 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] The expansion, improvement, and transformation of Nicaragua's educational system has been one of the many achievements of the Sandinist people's revolution. A fundamental characteristic of education in Nicaragua and the reason for its success is that the people are participating in every aspect of the nation's life. In just 5 years the concept of satisfying the interests of a dependent economy model and an educational system which excluded the majority of the people has virtually disappeared in Nicaragua. An example, but not the only one, is the literacy campaign and its results. A total of 75,000 Nicaraguan youths went to the most remote regions of the country to teach 406,000 people to read and write. In just a few months illiteracy dropped from approximately 50 percent to 13 percent. A precedent was established which led to other achievements.

In just 5 years Nicaragua has doubled the number of persons attending school. Approximately 1.1 million students at all school levels were enrolled in 1984. This was possible because the government has given priority to education. Amid economic difficulties and despite the counterrevolutionary aggression financed and promoted by the Reagan administration, in 5 years the budget for education has been increased from $30 million to $200 million. In these 5 years of revolutionary government in Nicaragua some 6,000 new teachers have been hired; 65,000 infants are cared for in nurseries every year; 250,000 adults have returned to school; and 9 teachers' training centers have been established. The government is also building new schools for some 100,000 students mainly in rural areas, who still are not participating in the educational program.

Special attention has been given to improving the quality of education, its plans, and programs. School libraries and laboratories to teach science have also been established. Centers for technological studies have been improved, with special emphasis on farm mechanics, industrial development, fisheries and navigation, electricity, metal mechanics, electronics, and mining. Students in agriculture schools are working directly in the field of production by incorporating their study plans to production centers where they can actually work. The government has implemented a plan to make sure that every student completes at least fourth grade, so that he is not illiterate if he drops out of school.

Many countries have offered to help Nicaragua in the field of education. Among them is Cuba, which has sent 2,600 teachers to cooperate with the Nicaraguan people. The worthy cause of education has been the target of mercenary aggressions. More than 130 teachers have been murdered by counterrevolutionaries. A total of 138 schools located in the war zone had to be closed this year and 674 adult education centers abolished. Despite the existing situation, much has been achieved.

If it were not for all this -- the constant attacks from the counterrevolutionary groups financed and directed by the U.S. Government -- who knows how much further Nicaragua would have advanced in the field of education?

'National Independence'

PA220228 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 20 Jul 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Text] President Reagan's administration has used significant amounts of U.S. funds in a fierce war to wear out and destroy Sandinist power in Nicaragua. Although subjected to pursuits, threats, and attacks at the military and economic levels, the Nicaraguan nation continues to advance as it marks the fifth anniversary of the victorious epic waged against the prolonged Somoza dictatorship. The Nicaraguan people, together with the FSLN, determinedly face that armed machinery unleashed beyond our borders by mercenaries paid and armed by the United States.

Nevertheless, as Nicaragua marks its first lustrum, it holds a record of achievements to show the world. Regarding this, PRELA conducted an exclusive interview with writer Sergio Ramirez Mercado, one of the most prominent Sandinist figures and a member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction. During the interview, which was published in the most recent issue of the weekly Cuban magazine BOHEMIA, the distinguished Nicaraguan intellectual and politician said: We believe that the revolution's most important achievement at the political level has been the consolidation of national independence in the view of imperialist attacks and U.S. hegemonic plans to recover this country, which they definitely lost when the revolution triumphed. Sergio Ramirez added:

The revolution has allowed us to give the country a genuinely national character and to consolidate independence and sovereignty, which opens the possibility for an internal transformation in Nicaragua because it is impossible for us to carry out any social change project in view of imperialist domination.

During the interview published by BOHEMIA, the Nicaraguan leader, who was proclaimed FSLN vice presidential candidate for the November elections, said that Washington wants to recover lost power and to achieve that it resorts to a complex set of attacks and warmongering attitudes that even enjoy a legal blessing, because the funds used to attack our people are approved by the U.S. Congress.

After pointing to the problems endured by that Central American country as a result of decreases in the prices of coffee, cotton, sugar, meat, and other products, the loss of more than $400 million as a result of adverse trade conditions, oil price increases, and the enormous foreign debt inherited from Somozism amounting to $2.7 billion, Sergio Ramirez Mercado turned to issues pertaining to the United States. He said:

We do not believe that the world can continue to bear the tension unleashed by the United States with its nuclear race, the deployment of new missiles in Europe, and the tension spots that it is trying to create in the Middle East, southern Africa, and Central America.

Hence, he believes that President Ronald Reagan's reelection could bring serious problems to humanity. During the interview, Ramirez Mercado also said that the U.S. leader uses Honduras not only as a base for attacks on Nicaragua, but has also transforme that country into a real aircraft carrier in the heart of Central America to launch attacks on El Salvador and Guatemala at anytime.

Finally, the member of the Nicaraguan Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction evaluated international solidarity with the Sandinist process. He mentioned the support of the Nonaligned Movement, the socialist community, Western Europe, Latin America, Asia, and Africa.

PERUVIAN TANA LEADER VIEWS NICARAGUAN STRUGGLE

PA202147 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Today Nicaragua is the symbol of independence, sovereignty, and the people's right to self-determination against U.S. arrogance and imperiousness, (Ricardo Gavea), executive secretary of the Peruvian Chapter of the Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America [TANA] has said to our Managua correspondent. (Gavea), who is in Managua for the Sandinist revolution's fifth anniversary, participated with 56 delegates in a march of solidarity with Nicaragua. The march began in Lima, Peru's capital, and traversed more than 5,000 kilometers.

IRANIAN ENVOY DELIVERS FOREIGN MINISTER'S MESSAGE

GF200808 Tehran International Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The Iranian ambassador in Havana, Mostafa Mokhlesi, met yesterday with Cuban Foreign Minister Malmierca and delivered to him a message from our foreign minister, Mr Velayati. During this meeting in which they discussed the means of strengthening bilateral relations, Mostafa Mokhlesi reviewed Iran's stand toward international issues. The Cuban foreign minister denounced the U.S. imperialist's plots in the Persian Gulf aimed at expanding the imposed war and warned against U.S. intervention in this region.

PANAMANIAN DELEGATION VISITS VILLA CLARA CDR

FL201548 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1414 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] A delegation of the Panamanian Democratic Revolutionary Party headed by (Balbina Herrera), recently elected mayor of the San Miguelito District, met with the members of the Provincial Executive Secretariat of the Committee for the Defense of the Revolution [CDR] in Villa Clara. Upon its arrival at provincial CDR headquarters, the delegation was greeted by Pedro Piloto, chief of the Foreign Relations Department of the party Provincial Committee, and CDR leaders who informed the delegation about CDR activities. The visitors asked questions related to the functioning of the CDR and about important activities of the aggressive mass organization.

9 SPORTS TRAINERS TO GO TO PANAMA IN 1985

FL202052 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1809 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Jack (Cardose), director of Panama's National Institute of Sports, has said that he is satisfied with the agreement signed with Cuban sports officials in Havana. (Cardose) told the press in Panama City that an addendum has been announced that in the first semester of 1985, Cuba's National Institute of Sports, Physical Education, and Recreation will send nine highly qualified trainers to Panama.

C.S. RODRIGUEZ ATTENDS POLISH ANNIVERSARY RECEPTION

FL211456 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1000 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, Politburo member and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, attended the reception given in Havana on the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the founding of the Polish People's Republic. Polish Ambassador to Cuba Stanislaw Jarzabek received a large group representing the party, Cuban Government, and mass organizations, and Cuban cultural personages who attended the reception. Division General Antoni Jasinski, Polish vice minister of national defense, who is visiting Cuba, also attended the reception, as did many diplomatic corps members.

DEMONSTRATORS CLASH WITH POLICE IN URUGUAY

PA202310 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] A wave of repressive actions has shaken Uruguay over the past few hours. Numerous persons have been detained, and several confrontations have occurred between police and the population. In the city of Paisandu, 400 km from Montevideo, hundreds of demonstrators were violently repressed by a group of uniformed men. No arrests have been reported.

Meanwhile, more than 20,000 people marched down 18 July Avenue in downtown Montevideo to demand a general amnesty for political prisoners. Strong clashes occurred with the police. According to other reports, journalists Julian Urjia and Alexis Hand, who were arrested in Uruguay in June, presumably for subversive activities, were released on bail.

MURDERS, KIDNAPPINGS REPORTED IN GUATEMALA

PA201803 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Some 36 people were victims of the Guatemalan regime's repression last week, according to Guatemalan media and humanitarian groups. According to the report, 17 people were murdered, 10 were kidnapped and are now missing, and the others received serious gunshot wounds from 11 to 17 July. The regime's security forces are charged with these acts. The report indicates that two women and a child are among those who were murdered.

Meanwhile, the Mexican Government Secretariat has issued a communique in Mexico City stating that nine Guatemalan citizens who have been missing since 13 June were arrested for entering Mexico illegally. The communique noted that they were handed over to the immigration office in Mexico City, adding that as the arrested Guatemalans fear for their safety should they be returned to their own country, the Mexican Government is studying each case individually in order to make the appropriate decision.

ARDE'S PASTORA CITED ON ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT

PA212030 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GM 21 Jul 84

[Text] Nicaraguan counterrevolutionary leader Eden Pastora has admitted that anti-Sandinists were responsible for the attempt on his life on 30 May in the camp of La Penca, in northern Costa Rica. In a statement for a television station in San Jose, Pastora said that his enemies have tried to destroy him physically, politically, and militarily. Without identifying the anti-Sandinist forces, Pastora described the internal strife within the so-called Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE], a counterrevolutionary group that recently expelled him from its ranks. Pastora declared that he has called a new press conference, which will actually be a continuation of that which was interrupted at La Penca, where the attempt on his life left a toll of 7 dead and nearly 30 injured.

Meanwhile, it has been learned that Fernando Chamorro, better known as El Negro, was named commander in chief of ARDE, replacing Pastora.

CHILEAN COURT ORDERS COMMUNIST LEADERS EXPELLED

PA202201 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Chilean security police have raided the homes of communist leaders Jaime Insunza and Leopoldo Ortega, who returned from exile 26 days ago. The two leaders of the opposition Chilean People's Democratic Movement went into hiding after they were ordered to leave Chile. The two men's relatives have charged that all their personal belongings were thoroughly searched and that the homes of close relatives were also raided. Insunza and Ortega, who had been in exile in Brazil, returned to Chile after the Santiago Appeals Court annulled the government's exile order. However, in response to a Pinochet government appeal, the Supreme Court reversed its previous ruling and ordered the communist leaders be expelled from the country.

TRAINING COURSE GIVEN FOR DEFENSE ZONE LEADERS

FL201640 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1417 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The second training course for leaders of defense zones in Pinar del Rio has concluded with great success at the Commander Pinares Territorial Troops Militia [MTT] provincial officer training school. (Tenio Diaz), member of the provincial People's Government, said in his closing remarks that 28 projects are being carried out in Pinar del Rio to increase the combative and mobilization capabilities of the people as a salute to the 28th anniversary of the Granma landing and the organization of the FAR. He referred to the importance of the defense zones as appropriate places for the mobilization and training of the people with a view to safeguarding the achievements of the revolution. Since it was organized, the MTT provincial officer training school in Pinar del Rio has contributed to the training of a large group of specialists for that organization.

BARBADOS

COST OF LIVING RISES BY 0.6 PERCENT IN MAY

FL201550 Bridgetown CANA in English 1721 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, July 19, CANA -- The Barbados cost of living, as measured by the index of retail prices, rose 0.6 per cent in May compared with the previous month, a government release said today.

Average prices were 1.6 per cent higher than at the end of 1983, the release said, and the present annualised rate of inflation stands at 4.0 per cent compared with 5.5 per cent at the end of 1983. The index for May stood at 143.5 points. slightly up from 142.6 in April.

The index had been stable for the eight month period August 1983 to March 1984 but began to rise slowly in April following an increase in the housing index.

Although the food index increased in May by 1.3 per cent general food prices were still 1.2 lower than at the end of 1983, the release said.

DOMINICA

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY TALKS ON TRADE, COOPERATION

FL202250 Bridgetown CANA in English 1650 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, July 20, CANA -- Dominica's Ambassador to Italy, Arden Shillingford, is holding discussions today with government officials in Rome on apsects of cooperation between the two countries.

The foreign affairs department here said that Shillingford yesterday presented his credentials to President Alessandro Pertini, and held meeting with officials from the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Development and Cooperation.

"Today he is holding discussions with the Italian Government on aspects of cooperation within the context of the Lome Convention" the department said.

Lome is a trade and aid pact between the European community and 64 developing countries in Africa, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. Shillingford is based in London as Dominica's high commissioner to Britain.

GRENADA

GAIRY OMITTED FROM CANLIDATE ELECTION LIST

FL210210 Bridgetown CANA in English 2054 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] St George's, Grenada, July 20, CANA -- The Grenada United Labour Party (GULP) of controversial former Prime Minister Sir Eric Gairy has reached agreement on candidates for all 14 constituencies on Grenada in general elections expected before year end, party sources said.

The 15th electoral district combines Carriocou and Petit Martinique, Grenada's two ward islands.

The GULP formed the last elected government here until it was ousted in a leftwing coup in March 1979.

The sources told CANA the list of candidates includes only two of the GULF's nine successful candidates at the last elections in 1976

The candidates are: veterans Oliver Raeburn and Albert Forsyth; two former cabinet minister barristers, Irvin Duncan and Raymond Anthony; and Herbert Squires, the man tapped to lead the party into the elections; Michael Donelan; Erleen Adams; Edsel Thomas; Mitchell James; Franklin Philbert; Basanto Fletcher; Marcel Peters; Winnifred Strachan; and Dr Denis Radix.

The GULP is still to name a candidate to contest the constituency of Carriacou and Petit Martinique which is traditionally a stronghold of Gairy's major rival, former Chief Minister Herbert Blaize who heads the Grenada National Party.

A notable omission from the slate is Gairy himself who since his return last January from four-and-a-half year's of forced exile in the United States has said he would not be contesting the elections.

NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

ANP NEWS AGENCY PLANS TO REDUCE ACTIVITIES

FL201314 Hilversum International Service in English 1000 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] The Dutch News Agency ANP intends to reduce its activities in the Netherlands Antilles. Among the steps to be taken will be an end to Dutch and English news bulletins in Aruba and Curacao and to news summaries in Papiamento.

ANP management says these steps are necessary because of the sharp increase in losses suffered as a result of operations costs in the Netherlands Antilles. Consideration is also being given to the possibility of abolishing the line between Curacao, Saba, and St Martin. Arrangements have been made meanwhile to compensate the four employees who will lose their jobs as a result of the new measures.

ST LUCIA

EMERGENCY MEETING ON EFFECTS OF UK STRIKE

FL200140 Bridgetown CANA in English 1804 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Excerpt] Castries, St Lucia, July 19, CANA -- The St Lucia Parliament met in emergency session last night to discuss the threat to the banana industry in the Windward Islands by the national dock strike in Britain, the group's biggest market.

Deputy Prime Minister George Mallet told Parliament that the four islands -- St Lucia, Grenada, Dominica, and St Vincent -- would know by today whether the striking workers will unload 10.5 million dollars (one EC dollar: 37 cents U.S.) worth of bananas they had shipped.

He said that by weekend there would be some 4,800 tons of bananas at Britain's Port Barry on board the Geestland, the Artic, and the Geest Bay, owned by Geest Industries marketing agents for Windward Island's bananas in the U.K.

"But this may or may not be handled depending on what the dockers committee at Barry decide after the Windwards case is put to them by the national secretary," Mallet said.

Prime Minister John Compton has sent a personal appeal to the dockers union, citing the 60 per cent contribution of bananas to St Lucias export earnings.

Mallet said in the event these efforts failed he has dispatched a letter to the president of the Windward Island's Banana Association (Winban) suggesting a contingency plan, which might be the last option available.

GUYANA

GOVERNMENT TO RECEIVE ARGENTINE LINE OF CREDIT

FL201542 Bridgetown CANA in English 1855 GMT 19 Jul 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 19, CANA -- Guyana is sending a delegation to Argentina later this month to finalise arrangements for a 19 million dollar (one Guy dollar; 27 cents U.S.) line of credit [words indistinct] said.

"Guyana will utilise the line of credit facility to buy a pharmaceutical plant which will be used locally to produce a wide range of drugs," the official said. The Guyana delegation will also discuss with Argentinian officials, wide ranging possibilities for economic co-operation between the two countries, the official said.

SURINAMESE AMBASSADOR ON JOINT COOPERATION

FL202354 Bridgetown CANA in English 2119 GMT 20 Jul 84

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, July 20, CANA -- Suriname's new ambassador to Guyana Dr John Harold Kolader stressed the importance of cooperation between the two neighbours, a move he said "is now more urgent in the face of severe economic problems caused by global recession and the economic policies of industrialised countries."

Presenting his credentials to Vice President Desmond Hoyte, Kolader said "the near neighbourship of Guyana and Suriname necessitates the development of bonds, and any accreditation signifies the start of a more meaningful and fruitful relationship between the two countries." He said although colonial structures had created "language, cultural, and legal barriers, Guyana and Suriname having attained independence, cannot take refuge behind historical phenomena."

Hoyte reciprocated Kolader's remarks saying Guyana is committed to the strengthening of relations with Suriname."

"Although we have explored together the possibilities of cooperation in such important functional areas as trade, fisheries, transportation, communication, education, and culture, there remains a great deal to be done before our ideas are translated into reality," Hoyte said. Kolader succeeds Henk Herrenburg who left here in August 1982.

SURINAME

AIR TRAFFIC TO RESUME WITH NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

PA220440 Hilversum International Service in Spanish 2330 GMT 21 Jul 84

[Text] Air traffic between Suriname and the Netherlands Antilles will resume on 1 August. The Surinamese airlines will fly on Monday each week while the Antillean airlines will fly twice a week.

The two airlines reached an agreement on the route's use yesterday. Imro Fong Poen, Suriname's minister for transport, trade, and industry, will travel to Curacao next Monday to ratify the agreement with his Netherlands Antillean counterpart, Rhybis Ellis.